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In addition to the Prizes announced in the List, dated the 23rd of February last, the General Purpose Committee of the Council have resolved to offer First Prizes of 50 and Second Prizes of 10, for Single Cock Birds of any age, of all the following varieties, namely:—Dorking, Spanish, Cuckoo, Bantam, Pouter, Fencible, Hamburg, Seagull, Game, and Polish; and that the same shall be entered under letters A to H on the ordinary certificates, and exhibited separately.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1854.

## REVIEWS

*Turkey: its History and Progress: from the Journals and Correspondence of Sir James Porter, Fifteen Years Ambassador at Constantinople.* Continued to the Present Time, with a Memoir of Sir James Porter, by his Grandson, Sir George Larpent, Bart. 2 vols. Hurst & Blackett.

Sir James Porter, without brilliant qualities, and without an inheritance of riches or power, was a remarkable and fortunate man. He was not a patrician ambassador. They could find for him, at *Heralds' College*, no ancestor greater than *La Roches*, who led a troop of horse, under *James the Second*. Nor had he the advantages of extraordinary culture; for all he learned in his earlier days was taught him at a common school. He never could quote Latin, — and therefore quoted *Boileau's* satire on pedantry, and laughed at the classics. If, at a later period, his mind was usefully replenished with modern learning, it was through his own patient and zealous pursuit of knowledge; and if he rose to high social rank, it was through his winning manners, which attracted friends, and his scrupulous fulfilment of duty, which never disappointed their friendship. While still a boy he was placed in business in the city of London; but, in the evenings, he first enlivened his imagination by a visit to the play, and then enriched his mind and memory from books which habitual economy enabled him to purchase. These facts explain Sir James Porter's elevation, and they are facts for young and old to study. It is true the ambitious citizen made friends; but the lawyer, *Adams* — afterwards a Baron of the Exchequer — could not have served an idle or thoughtless man. He liked *James Porter*, however: he liked his talk at the theatre, and from these speeches at the debating club, and from these presuming his abilities, introduced him to *Lord Carteret*, subsequently *Earl Granville*, — whose portrait, sketched by his protégé, we shall presently have before us. By him *James Porter* was confidentially employed on commercial missions to different states of Europe, and next as a diplomatic lieutenant to *Sir Thomas Robinson*, the British Envoy at Vienna.

The times were exciting. There was a war in the cabinets, as well as in the fields, of the Old World. *Maria Theresa* and the *Pragmatic Sanction* had armed in their behalf the ruling chivalry of Christendom, and *Frederic of Prussia* alternated between exultation after victory and plans of suicide after defeat. *Sir Thomas Robinson's* task was to persuade these sovereigns and their ministers to accept some bland compromise; and the aid of Mr. Porter, however it affected the policy of the states concerned, was so far appreciated, that it gained for him the post of Ambassador at Constantinople. This brilliant position he filled during fifteen years, — from 1747 to 1762 — and it enabled him to bring into play a capacity very useful to himself. He interposed his authority between the despotism of officials and the weakness of the Jewish and Armenian population, and the "fees" paid to him on this account accumulated rapidly into a fortune. At the same time he supported his grandeur with economy, and contrived to be hospitable without being extravagant, and to be thrifty without being parsimonious. His marriage with a daughter of the Dutch envoy added to his influence and his wealth; so that when, after a long Eastern sojourn, he returned to Europe, considerable opulence and dignity had gathered round his increasing years. He refused a baronetcy, but accepted the rank of a knight.

One other embassy, to Brussels, concluded his diplomatic career. He then retired, lived some time at Richmond, and finally went to Bath, — where he died, in 1786, aged sixty-six years.

During his residence at Constantinople he amassed a variety of information on the government, the manners, and the resources of the Ottoman Empire. Part of these materials were published before his death, and the book was highly valued by such men as *Dr. Robertson* and *Sir William Jones*. *Sir George Larpent* has now incorporated the envoy's notes in a new work, compiled, upon this basis, by himself. It is a fault in the plan, that, in the first volume, we are uncertain when *Sir James* is writing and when *Sir George*, — since old and fresh dates occur in pages the authorship of which is not distinctly marked. Nevertheless, by the impress of the different periods, we can generally distinguish between the two; so that we have, in a single production, a dioramic view of the Ottoman Empire in its former and in its present condition: — the decay of the last century, and the renovation of this, — the decline of ancient manners, and the novitiate of the Turks in European civilization. We follow them, as conquerors, from their early inroads, to the days when they exchanged the tents of the camp for the domes of the city, — crimsoning their swords in many a Christian holocaust, and yielding at last to the allurements of peace and trade. *Sir James Porter* wrote in a clear and simple style, — somewhat authoritative, indeed, but candid and manly. He was a liberal and spirited politician. In the shade of a pension he did not hesitate to denounce the partition of Poland; and though his letters on this subject were suppressed, he openly spoke of the "nefarious proceeding." One evening the Austrian Minister heard his remarks, when he added: — "I do not refer to you, Baron; you are an honest man. I am very sorry you are associated with these people. I condemn the crowned heads; but God will do justice on them." *Sir George Larpent* quotes the prophecy, and joins in the prayer.

The Ambassador enumerated many defects and corruptions in the Turkish system, but did not regard them as inherent or ineradicable. He reviewed the religion, the administration, the commerce, industry, manners, and feelings of the people — Mohammedan and Christian, — and described the curiosities of an envoy's occupation in Constantinople. *Sir George Larpent* has gone over the same ground, and, without being seduced into flattering a nation's civil customs because he must admire its military prowess, brightens the picture considerably. His epitome is careful; and though he does not write well, his systematic plan lays out the various topics in intelligible and consistent order. Some illustrative gleanings, from the descriptions of foreign travellers, are interesting. Here is a bit of Danubian scenery: —

"In the marshes on the Danube the buffaloes were standing with only their snouts projecting from the mud, and ownerless dogs, resembling wolves, roamed about through the fields. We rode past an island, on which mares were grazing; when they saw us approach, they commenced whinnying, and some of the colts bounded into the river to swim across to us. The ducks were startled from the reeds, and a flock of wild swans, rising with their heavy wings, rippled the mirror-like surface of the stream. The whole scene resembled a landscape by *Everding* or *Ruysdael*. Lower down the Danube the aspect of the country becomes pleasanter, the islands are covered with a thick growth of osiers: the confluent of the river resemble lakes, and at last the country widens into an immense sea of reeds, in which vessels are seen slowly moving."

After a few prefatory chapters of generaliza-

tion, *Sir James Porter's* account is introduced. His first topic is Mohammedanism; and he instances an example of the way in which some of its minor precepts affect the potent, grave, and reverend seigniors of the land. —

"A *Reis Effendi*, or secretary of state, reputed of great ability and learning, sent for a Christian dragoon on very important business: he attended, and found the secretary deeply engaged in dispute with his son-in-law on the important question, to what exact height their hands or arms, feet or legs, should be washed, in order to render themselves truly acceptable to Allah."

But, wise or simple, the writer allots to the Turks the palm of superior virtue among the inhabitants of the Levant. "Bad as they are, they are the best people in the empire." There is a story told of a freeholder at *Sans-Souci*, whose rights were allowed by the Prussian king to spoil a regal garden. *Sir James* relates quite as good an anecdote of an Ottoman ruler. —

"The Koran, we have observed, secures property, of which the following fact is a remarkable instance: — In the year 1755, the Porte was burnt entirely down: on rebuilding it, the consideration was, how to place it on the former spot, and at the same time render the situation secure from a similar accident for the future. The method determined on was to leave a sufficient space about it, and for that end to purchase and demolish several houses that were contiguous. Most of the owners submitted to a sale; but there was one old woman who declared that she could not, and would not, part with hers; that it had been in the possession of her family for several generations, and no money could compensate the infinite value she set upon it. No offers tempted her, no threats could avail anything. The men in power cried out and abused her, but the injustice appeared too violent to dare and take it by force; and when it was asked why the Sultan did not exercise his authority so far as to take it and pay the value: the answer was — 'Tis impossible, it cannot be done, it is her property.'"

The Turks may style their sovereign the "Imperial Sun who gilds the firmament of glory," but they are, nevertheless, free critics of his acts, and meditate occasionally against his life or his eyes. Especially they insist on the rigid administration of justice, as ordered by the Prophet's law; nor do the rich alone enjoy it. Such incidents as the following, however — the Ambassador cautions us — are rare. —

"The second case was before a young Cadi at Smyrna. A poor man claimed a house which a rich man had seized. The former produced his deeds and instruments to prove his right, but the latter had provided a number of witnesses; and to support their evidence the more effectually, he presented the Cadi with a bag containing five hundred ducats, which the Cadi received. When it came to a hearing, the poor man told his story, produced his writings, but wanted witnesses, that most essential and only valid proof of the merits of his cause. The other, provided with witnesses, laid his whole stress on them and on his adversary's defective law, who could produce none; he, therefore, urged the Cadi to give sentence in his favour. After the most pressing solicitations, the judge calmly drew from beneath his sofa the bag of 500 ducats, which the rich man had given him as a bribe, saying to him very gravely, 'You have been much mistaken in the suit; for if the poor man could produce no witnesses in confirmation of his right, I myself can furnish him with at least 500.' He then threw him the bag with reproach and indignation, and decreed the house to the poor plaintiff."

But the arts and practices of corruption, in *Sir James Porter's* time, were not monopolized by *El Islam*. Seldom have we found a better story of a bishop in a "far country." —

"A metropolitan had fixed his eye on an archbishopric, which he was determined to have at any price. During the life of the Archbishop, all his attempts were in vain; though, in good truth, the Archbishop's character was such as might furnish abundant reasons even for a Turk to depose him.

At length the Archbishop had a paralytic stroke, dropped down suddenly and was thought to be dead. Preparations were made for the funeral. The grand ceremony is to seat the dead Prelate on his throne, dressed in his pontifical robes; while he thus sits in state, two Chaplains attend at the door of the room, when all of the Greek religion are admitted to pay their last duty to him, and kiss his hand; they consider this a species of meritorious act. The time allotted for this ceremony had elapsed, the moment approached for his interment, the coffin lay at the side of his throne, with all the requisites for finally closing it up, when some of the principal men among the Greeks who could not attend before, earnestly pressed the two Chaplains for admittance into the room, but were told that it was then too late. They persisted, however, in their request; and though the usual hour was past, such was the importance of these pious visitors, that the Chaplains dared not refuse. One of them advanced before the company; and, as he approached, the Archbishop opened his eyes, cried out for a glass of water, and asked, what was meant by the dismal apparatus of the coffin? Surprise and astonishment seized Priest and people; they ran out of the room in alarm; the other Chaplain, after some hesitation, boldly ventured, cross in hand, to approach the Archbishop, administered to his wants, and satisfied his inquiry. During the interval in which the report of the Archbishop's death prevailed, the Metropolitan applied to the slave of the Kislar Aga, and offered to pay him down immediately six thousand sequins for the Archbishopric. All was agreed on, the money paid, and the command from the Porte, which is their *congé-d'élire*, was to be immediately made out. A few moments after, the news being brought to the metropolitan that the Archbishop had recovered, and was alive, he went in hastily to the slave, and begged for his money again. But the slave told him, with a grave and composed mien, that it was the same thing whether he paid it then, or some time after, for the Archbishop could not live long. He counselled him to keep quiet, and promised, that, although he would in the mean time keep the money, the metropolitan might look upon himself as heir apparent to the Archbishopric. The Black, his slave, and dependents, fell a sacrifice to the public vengeance two months after the Archbishop's resurrection; and the latter lived two years longer, to laugh at the folly of his would-be successor, who, in fact, never succeeded."

Sad things are here recorded against the modern Greeks. Sir James Porter hated them cordially. They retained the levity, he declared, with none of the arts, or learning, or virtue of their ancestors. We suspect that he had reasons to dislike their merchants, which induced him to confound them all in a description that never can be applied by a philosopher to any entire people. It is better, said Burke, to distrust one's own judgment than to condemn a whole race as liars, thieves, and hypocrites.

Before we pass to Sir George Larpent's view of Turkey, we must select a passage or two from Sir James Porter's miscellaneous papers. He was requested to undertake a mission to Maria Theresa, and declined, because, he affirmed, she would believe him to be sent for the purpose of cajoling her. "It was the frog contending with the ox." Here is a picture of a minister and a diplomatist playing a game of mutual persuasion.

"Every passion seemed delineated in Lord Granville's countenance, his eyes sparkled, he raised his brows, settled his wig, sometimes straight, sometimes awry, then, with all the power of words and eloquence, ridiculed my cowardice and my doubt of being supported at home; extolled the importance by the confidential import of the commission, that I was the depository of the King's and Ministers' most secret thoughts and designs; that a like commission was the origin of the late Lord Stanhope's fortune: he had traced that ground for me to become as great. He exhorted, persuaded, and in a set dissertation made use of every possible argument to move me. Lost to his rhetorical powers, I remained quiet in my chair as if I had been all atten-

tion. Whilst wrapt up in thought I was reflecting how I could execute this commission at Vienna with honour and safety."

Accordingly he went; Maria Theresa heard his proposals, and shook her head and bit her lips, until the diplomatist suggested a sacrifice to be made on her part. We here learn how accidental is the issue of diplomacy. If Sir Thomas Robinson had not been near to help the Envoy, what could he have said?—

"The Queen broke out with more vehemence on this representation than she had hitherto done; after a continued flow of words and passion, she finished and dropped her fan; I stooped to take it up and lost the series of ideas I had collected; as I had just taken up her last word to begin a reply, Sir Thomas Robinson helped my recollection."

Sir George Larpent has compared his grandfather's account of Turkey with the reports of recent inquirers, and has compiled a description of the Empire as it exists,—very much, as it seems to us, from the 'Letters on Turkey,' by M. Ubcini. Among the rising arts is that of preparing the munitions of war. Twelve furnaces, at Samakow, on the Black Sea, supply annually twenty million pounds of leaden bullets. No doubt a good many of these are now in the mud of the Crimea, or sprinkled over the slopes of the Danube, by the heroic army under Omar Pacha. Our readers will be glad to meet that gallant leader, who first graduated in the Austrian service. He then served in Turkey under a Polish general; but was speedily appointed to the head of a division. When in command at Bucharest, he made his government popular by his liberal conduct, and became famous for his adherence to free principles.—

"This reputation he chiefly acquired by a circumstance, which only interested Omar Pacha so far, that he was enabled to show that the Sultan, and not the Tzar, was the master of the country. A band of gypsies had played the Marseillaise and other national melodies, and had been summarily punished by the Russians for it. As soon as Omar Pacha heard of it, he ordered all the bands to learn these tunes. Whenever the Turkish troops marched out to exercise before Bucharest, and passed the palace occupied by General Luders, he had an opportunity of hearing these odious revolutionary sounds. The effect was soon visible: when the Russian representations, at first clothed in very rough language, and then pitched in a milder key, remained ineffectual, they comprehended the lesson which Omar Pacha read them, and placed some limits to the exercise of their supremacy in police matters."

Compiling, from various sources, a description of the scenes that took place in Constantinople when Sultan Mahmud began to reform, Sir George Larpent notices the way in which anti-reformers were dealt with. He is showing the inconvenience of common names:—

"The accused, without warning or trial, wherever they were found (if in a public place, if not, in the nearest), were instantly beheaded. The *procedural* was simple:—Are you so-and-so, Hassan, or Achmet, or Zadik?—True, I am Achmet; what do you want?—We want your head; kneel down without disturbance.—Oh! this is a mistake; you mean that Achmet, or that: I am not the man.—You are the man; we are looking for a certain Achmet with a long nose and large eyes; you have a long nose and large eyes, and are called Achmet, therefore you must be the man who is convicted of treason against our Lord.—I protest this is a calumnious falsehood; I pray you go elsewhere; I am not the man!—Hear the blasphemer! not content with conspiring against our Lord, he denies his guilt, instead of bowing at once to our Lord's clemency; kneel, wretch!—By the Prophet, by my Father's beard, by my soul I swear I am innocent; this is a mistake. Thus saying, falls his head. This exposure to an unpleasant equivocation renders it fortunate, rather than otherwise, for an Osmanli to have a personal defect which may obtain for him a surname; as, for example, Selim One-eye,

or Mustapha Crook-back, or Avni Club-foot, is not liable to become a head shorter through a mistake."

The spirit and the contents of the book are represented more clearly by these illustrations than by extracts from the chapters of statistics or narrative. It will be understood that the passages we have quoted are from among those by which Sir James Porter and Sir George Larpent relieve their masses of detail.—The volumes are of an authentic character, and of enduring interest.

*Gleanings from Piccadilly to Pera.* By John Oldmixon, Esq., Commander R.N. Longman & Co.

Commander Oldmixon is one of the "Smelfungus" class of travellers, who, as Sterne says, ought to tell their physicians what they insist on telling the world. He went wailing all the way through France to Italy and the East; and the "gleanings" of his journey are weeds, prickly thorns, and the very driest stubble. Seldom have we read a book in which the tone is so disagreeable. The spectacle is that of a Diogenes rolling his tub for a couple of thousand miles—sneering at what he sees, and railing at what he has left behind;—but the Diogenes, in this case, is not a brilliant or amusing one. He is rather that melancholy character, a dull cynic. Perhaps, however, the book is made uninteresting on purpose. The author may have been so disgusted with Europe that he determined to plague it with a dry volume out of spite. If this were the "Commander's" object, he has succeeded.

If we accompany him on his tour, and exhibit him to our readers, it will be in the hope of making him more amusing than he has made himself. He begins at the beginning, with a grumble about the cabs of London:—

"What could have been more simple and efficacious than to have followed the French plan—so much the course, so much the hour?"

We extract this, because the traveller is now striking for the first time a favourite note. His favourite tune is to abuse England by contrasting it with the Continent; and then to abuse the Continent, by contrasting it with England. When he gets a bad dinner anywhere,—and he constantly gets a bad dinner,—he breaks into a panegyric on English hotels. When he is pleased with anything he sees, then forthwith he takes the opportunity of abusing his own country. It never seems to occur to him that he cannot have the advantages of all countries at once. With a love of paradox—which is his only element of originality—he reverses the usual order of things; he prefers English cookery to that of other countries, and places our government (on which we rather pride ourselves) as low as he can. Foreigners must have stared at a traveller who despised their *pâtés* and adored their police.

The author is not out of Kent before he says,—"Our farmers are very slow, and rather slovenly." Then, Folkestone "is improving in spite of the lord of the manor." "The steamers are out of date."—At last he gets afloat.—

"While walking the deck, I tried to get into chat with a triton of the minnows, a naval commander, but this big man shook me off; great personages cannot be too cautious,—we carry this rule down to very small fry indeed."

Commander Oldmixon, R.N., we see, has a low enough opinion of the dignity of a naval commander. Yet, surely, his fellow-traveller may have been a quiet, good-natured gentleman, who liked to enjoy his sea-breeze,—in Phocion liked to have his hair dressed—in silence. But our author never puts a kindly interpretation on the appearance and conduct of anybody; and he oversteps the licence of a writer of travels in commenting on those with

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whom he happened to be brought in contact. Having left Paris, he goes south, and makes a note of his railway experience.—

"We were all English, except one young Frenchman, who kept his eyes pretty constantly fixed on an 'honourable' young lady, who gave herself small exclusive airs towards us English as nobodies. This excessively provoked a fat Devonshire lady, not particularly in the high world, who was very curious to know who this little contemptuous girl could be, with her valet, her maid, and fond papa! Lord—going on a visit to his friend Lord Brougham at Cannes."

How little did the four travellers—here treated to a sneer a-piece—suspect that the sour gentleman, of whom they took little notice, would put them all in a book before a year was out! Travelling will become intolerable if we are to be caricatured by everybody with whom we do not choose to "fraternize" as we go along. But the Commander is essentially suspicious. At Chalons, he would not go to the "Park" Hotel, because "it was one of the advertised and puffed ones,"—so slept at the "Three Pheasants," where he had "a damp bed and a miserable breakfast." The Commander might have learnt a little philosophy from this adventure: by studiously acting differently from others, we often fare worse.

At Lyons, Commander Oldmixon is in his glory: "Our brutalities, our ignorances, our anomalies, corruptions, nuisances, and absurdities" are (without the least suggestion for our guidance) ushered in; and we are told, that "despotism, after all, only falls now and then heavily on a very few of the upper class." Our House of Commons and House of Peers "do nothing." Whereupon he moves on to Marseilles; and here we shall quote a paragraph illustrative of the care with which this very difficult gentleman provides himself with information.—

"We are interested about statistics; besides, I have no data to go by, and know not a soul to ask a question of. I find this city now is said to contain 200,000; and as to its commerce, one may guess it is thriving from the outward signs of its two harbours."

To make up for the want of information, we have sneers at Lord Brougham's French—at the English police—and, at last, the author rises to this height.—

"I filled my pockets with sprigs of this universal sweet thyme, and fancied, here, in some little nook, I could be content in a tiny cabanon to pass what remains to me of declining life—far, far from the heart-burnings, trifling distinctions, contumelies, miseries, and nonsenses of our *West End*! of our modern England; the clack and scandal of our villages, or the second-hand airs of our genteel watering-places; where no man must build or possess anything not under the *ground-rent* of lord this or that, or squire this or that: all with us so careful to let go no inch of their many miles of manor."

—We are sorry that we can devise no plan by which Commander Oldmixon might build—on another man's land—without having to pay *ground-rent*.

He gives us some account of Cannes. Perhaps it was the inspiration of this neighbourhood which induced him to try his hand at eloquence. The laughter at Lord Brougham and both Houses of Parliament gives us the passage which we extract—*à propos* of the absence of lawns in France.—

"O, land of my fathers, how art thou abused!—not by me, who love thee but too well—thy sylvan shades, thy glens, thy fields, thy woods, thy thickets, lawns, and streams; thy myths through the mists of fable; thy sylvan shades, peopled by shadows of our godlike bard—fairies in the train of thy loved Titania! There, there the soul melts—and anon roused to anger at the lords of thy soil—at thy much cramped and abused energies! Not so, sayest thou!—where then are our gay sylvan scenes?—where the garlanded

May-pole, the manly Morris dance?—where the games of adolescent youth?—where the village dance on the village green? Yes, a flock of poor geese, tended by an ill-fed, ill-clothed little girl! or, browsing, the skin-and-bone donkey of some ragged poacher.—

"Our country's pride, when once destroyed, Can never be supplied!"

or idle, desperate youth, swiping in tobacco smoke at the *beer-shop*, too lucky to be at last enlisted out of harm's way—yes, better than the workhouse, or poaching, or robbing. Australia and the diggings are only for the easier few, not quite beggars, who save and turn to cash their little all, to pay their passage—and leave at home the impossible refuse of the land to plague and puzzle the titled and rich few, who talk of morality and heaven! Ye gods, how they can talk!—but they can see all this in the streets, at their gates, as they sit on their magistrate's bench to administer the law. Yes, there is plenty of law, such as it is; it fills our jails well, and swells (as a sole revenge on aggressors) our town and country rates—from which some few escape *here*, and all over the Continent! Why not tax them for it?—that would be the last and wisest of our thousand taxes—good master Chancellor of the Exchequer; cogitate a little on a good tax on these selfish exiles who fatten France! I shall be well content to be included; for I have serious thoughts of being looked down on anywhere rather than at home—why looked down on? why mortified, humiliated? Why?—is it not intolerable to be despised, and banished our best, nay, our only tolerable circle!—to be a nobody—to find title or riches the only passport possible—that a few hundreds a year and a small street keeps one for ever at a distance from every thing desirable. To see the same people prancing for ever in the park, at the opera, at court, all strictly exclusive!"

Here we have—as the smallest fault—a total want of grammar throughout. We have, likewise, a couplet of Goldsmith's turned into the language of Commander Oldmixon. So much for the style,—and yet the style is not so ridiculous as the matter. Part of the matter is absolutely without meaning. For the rest, our italics will direct the reader to what is most curious in it. Constantly sneering at fashionable people, he yet pronounces their circle to be the only tolerable circle in England. The hearty laugh which so much nonsense exhibited in such a ludicrous shape will inevitably provoke should be tempered by the pity which the real suffering of mortified vanity—very visible here—is calculated to excite. Commander Oldmixon helps us to understand his book in this notable passage. So, the real fault of England is, that Commander Oldmixon is not a great figure in it! This, we fear, is an irremediable defect.

At Genoa we regret to hear of great decay. We do not pretend to have known it, as the Commander did, "forty years since," but we have a rather pleasant recollection of the dinners there. Yet, now, it seems, everything is bad,—the dinners particularly!" says our Commander, aiming at epigram; "they are now invariably mean and bad, the soup and wine mere water." At Naples, "Everybody says Naples is wonderfully improved, *not that it strikes me so*, yet no doubt I forget."

Once in the East, had Commander Oldmixon kept his eyes and his heart open, and done his best to give us a sketch of the appearance of our camp, and the doings of our officers, we might have pardoned or forgotten much that was disagreeable in his book. But in this part of his book, as in every other, he is disjointed, fragmentary, thin, and very sour. We shall glean from his gleanings, here, and let our readers judge for themselves.—

"I see lots of officers, in the long chief Pera street, on the bridge, or in the bazaar. They generally congregate at the *Hôtel d'Angleterre*, and in the sort of pastry-cook's opposite, but no word is exchanged. I pass like any Greek or Turk: not for the world would I address any of the Guards, Fusilier or Grenadier; perhaps the *Line* might be civil: but all

are too intensely occupied with themselves to leave one any hope of claiming a countryman in chit-chat, *sans cérémonie*. The ambassador has an immense house and garden on the top of Pera, overlooking the Golden Horn, across the hill side and cemetery and distant hill suburbs I have mentioned, at the back of Pera. With a letter, or a title, one might have visions of an invite, a dinner, a little ordinary civility. \* \* But people naturally ask, not for this or that man's opinion, but what are the Turks like now? What are they at? And this too has been ably answered by recent books; and we have it fresh and fresh by a dozen 'correspondents' of our daily papers. Allah Kerim! What can I say? Turkey, as he walks the streets or sits in his caïque, dresses more and more after the fashion of friend Europe, who is always taking him by the button, and bothering and boring him. He opens his half-shut eyes on steam and steamers; tries to play at geology, chemistry, and the stars; yet, Allah Acbar! comprehends nothing, and sets it down, on regaining his pipe, turban, and robe, as mere bosh! He believes in the drilling of his Tactics, and sits patiently puzzled, listening to the earwringing and contradictory ultimatums of a colony of infidel ambassadors. \* \*

Sometimes I watch the poor frightened cavalry horses being landed from the screw steamers; how many die, how many are killed! Here is a fine hunter, worth a hundred and fifty guineas, floating about dead under the bows of the caïques,—they broke his back landing. Close by are knots of fatigue parties piling baggage and luggage on the bullock waggons. Our army is hampered and crushed by loads of useless baggage, truly *impedimenta*!—twenty women to a regiment! What business have they with twenty, or one, on such an errand? The French come more sensibly near the mark, with but one jolly *vivandière*, and she is in half-uniform, and is wholly a soldier. Meantime steamers arrive full of troops from day to day, and the men are landed; all these large troop or horse steamers lying on the Scutari side by the barracks. To-day the bands of those in barracks were playing to them in their march up the hill, nothing loth to welcome their newly-arrived comrades in arms. Sir De Lacy Evans is lodged in or near the barracks, the two Princes in villas of the Sultan's, I think, just above his own palace (the Mahmoudieh) on the Bosphorus; that is, about two miles above Tophana, and in the eastern outskirts of the *Abasiktas* village."

These are specimens of this writer's style. We will only remark, in conclusion, that we have treated him with more tenderness than he has treated those whom he undertook to describe. Passages might be extracted from his book which would justify a reviewer in handling him with a severity which, all things considered, it is not worth while to exercise on works so slight.

*Memoirs of a Bourgeois of Paris*—[Mémoires, &c.] By Dr. L. Véron. Vol. IV. Paris, Le Genet.

Dr. Véron's Fourth Volume continues his narrative concerning the close of "the Empire, the Restoration, the Monarchy of July and the Republic, until the re-establishment of the Empire"; but a large proportion of it is little better than waste paper.—The first chapter begins with the Revolution of 1830, touches the tumults which followed at Lyons, and passes onward to the Strasbourg affair of 1835. Some passages from a letter, purporting to have been addressed by the late Duke of Orleans to the Duke of Nemours, have now a certain interest as specimens of vaticination. Dr. Véron states that the autograph, hitherto unpublished, is in his hands. How a document so intimate and confidential as this, and certain other communications betwixt the late King of the French and his ministers, which are subsequently printed, came into the keeping of our *Bourgeois*—to be laid up against "a rainy day," under a New Empire—we are not told. In the original of the following paraphrase the passages marked by us in italics are in English, which language

the late reigning family of France seem to have been fond of using in quotation. It will be remarked that the sons of Louis Philippe seem to have considered the attempt of the present Emperor as something more serious than was then believed by common observers.—

You will learn from the Queen and from Marie, my dear Nemours, all the details of the outbreak of Strasbourg. \* \* You may be completely at ease concerning the business; everything is finished—super-finished,—and I do not believe that the ramifications which this conspiracy, formed in Switzerland, certainly possessed, will now develop themselves in other quarters. Meanwhile, strict watch is kept, and the affair has brought us up in the market; for there was not an instant's doubt as to the issue of the attempt, nor the slightest chance of success for the conspiracy. \* \* Now, if the matter be clearly explained, it will strengthen us much,—make sufficient noise, and, above all, a good noise in the army: by largely rewarding our defenders, and, after that, *Vae Victis!* this will consolidate us. I believe that we shall make Virol a peer, and give him all the promotion and all the decorations he asks: it is decided. I think with pleasure that you will hear the whole story at once; and that, at a distance from us, you will not have had to suffer the frightful uncertainty which we have undergone. All last night was spent in watching, without news; and, when M. Franqueville arrived, I had determined on going direct to Strasbourg. You know my ideas regarding insurrections:—my principle is to march straight forward, even if I had nobody to follow me; to get to the end—to the bottom—and quickly. Happily I had not time to make a move, and all has been for the best. \* \* Offer my friendly regards to your companions, and communicate to them as much of my letter as will interest them. My father is very well; and all the world is in *very good spirits*. That which we have gone through is \* \* the produce of a year of conspiracy in Switzerland. We are at war with a party which, from time to time, make some efforts. After the affair of April, came Fieschi, then Alibaud, then *he*. We shall come to the end of them with right and with resolution. *We have plenty of both*. Adieu, my dear friend, once more excuse me; but you know that at moments like this one has not the time to write with a head at rest. \* \*

Dr. Véron reminds the reader that the worst enemies to the July Monarchy were neither the Fieschis and Alibauds—nor the "*he*," so contemptuously coupled with the assassins by the poor Duke of Orleans,—but the smooth and acquiscent political traders, by whose machinations and subservience to machination every popular idea of good faith and honest action was mystified, weakened and derided as a myth in France. It is not our duty to discuss these assumptions,—nor is Dr. Véron a writer with whom we should care to try a lance on such an argument. What our *Bourgeois* tells us concerning the Spanish match, though clenched by autograph letters hitherto unpublished (!) from the King, M. Guizot, Madame Adelaide and other of the ex-King's ministers and family council, adds little in substance to our knowledge of that strange piece of state-craft. However curious it is to look back to these anxious and wily devices at the present moment, when the heights above Boulogne are exhibiting such a different group of contracting parties, the writer is not subtle enough—or else is too subtle—to tell any anecdotes which might startle by their novelty. In fact, Dr. Véron is a savourless gossip concerning grave matters, and not very rich or various (in the present volume) when gayer topics than dynasties and treaties are his theme. The following anecdote, however, is noticeable, as declaring that the "very good spirits" of the King of the French no more failed him when he was dethroned, in exile, and near his death than they had done (according to the letter paraphrased above) when he had been placed "in frightful uncertainty"

by the sudden arrival of a new Napoleon in the midst of his army and at the gates of one of his citadels:—

I can recount here (says Dr. Véron), in the most exact detail, a conversation betwixt Louis Philippe, in exile, during the last days of his life, with two men of much intelligence and great talent, MM. Scribe and Halévy, whom I am happy to number among my friends. Having learnt that Halévy was starting for England, Jules Janin, with a sentiment of respectful delicacy, begged him to convey one of his early works, richly bound and ornamented with the royal cipher, to Louis Philippe. It was '*Le Chemin de Travers*.' On his arrival in London, my friend Halévy waited, at Esher, on the Duchess of Orleans, whom he had had the honour of knowing in Paris, and stated to her his desire of obtaining an audience of the King. M. Boismilon came, without delay, and informed Halévy that the King would receive him, on the morrow, at Claremont. At the day and the hour indicated Halévy entered the King's bed-chamber. Louis Philippe, though dressed, was lying on the bed, covered with a *courte-pied* of green silk. Wearing then no wig, with his figure emaciated and his complexion yellow, Louis Philippe was not recognizable. He charged Halévy with thanks and kind remembrances for M. Jules Janin; then allowed himself to talk politics for an hour. The General Dumas was present at this conversation. The King justified himself for having quitted Paris. "With this doctrine, *The King reigns, but does not govern*," said he;—"they had made me an impossibility. I was no longer in the eyes of France anything but an old miser placing out his millions in foreign countries and making a havoc in the State forests. On the morning of the 24th of February I visited the post of the National Guard in the Court of the Tuileries. I found a battalion of the first legion, who received me with cries of '*Vive la Réforme!*' My reign was over. To accept Reform was to accept and choose a Chamber of Deputies, the leaders of which would all have been Ledru-Rollins. I abdicated, therefore, in favour of my grandson, thinking to act for the interests of France." The King pronounced these words with much emotion. "But M. Halévy," he added, "let us now talk of your affairs. They are going to perform a score, by you, at the Opera in London; possibly the subject is not well chosen. '*The Tempest*' is too fantastic a poem. Had I been in your place, I would have written a '*Henry the Eighth*.' And then Louis Philippe improvised before the celebrated composer a complete sketch of a '*Henry the Eighth*,' frequently quoting verses from Shakspeare. "Since M. Scribe is coming to London, tell him my sketch."—"M. Scribe would prefer hearing it from the mouth of the King," answered Halévy.—The dialogue was interrupted by a visit. Mr. Croker was announced; a distinguished English writer, who was about to publish, in an English review, a very remarkable article on the Revolution of February. The King presented M. Halévy to the new comer. "Mr. Croker, tell this Frenchman that I know your Shakspeare well—that I know him almost by heart."—"The King knows our great poet as few Englishmen do." Halévy soon took leave of the august speaker, who pressed him to return for another visit. A few days after this audience M. Scribe arrived in London. The poet and the composer were both invited to dine at Claremont. The King, who was ill, did not appear at dinner; but, in the evening, joined his family party in the drawing-room—presently drew away MM. Scribe and Halévy into a corner, and called the Queen to him. Then he went through, with the utmost detail, the five acts of his opera of '*Henry the Eighth*.' The Queen seemed to encourage the subject; she was happy whenever Louis Philippe did not talk politics. The King made M. Scribe undertake to bring him the sketch of his opera, written out and arranged. On the eve of their departure the King's two future fellow labourers went down to St. Leonard's, at the sea-side, the King having quitted Claremont. M. Scribe read him the work complete. More than one scene was made the subject of objections on the part of the King. The two argued,—Scribe defending his ideas. "Sire," said he, more than once, "your Majesty has, as yet, no experience of the stage; when you have worked for the theatre

you will know that, in an opera especially, long developments of character are dangerous,—one must have situations, and situations easy to understand, such as will inspire the genius and spirit of the musician." The King yielded with reluctance; but yet showed himself well satisfied with M. Scribe's work. "Monsieur Halévy," said the King sadly, "write the music of this opera for England; for it will not be allowed me to hear it in France."—Halévy, even, undertook to search out some ancient English airs.—"I will sing you a charming one," said the King. "It is a glee." He sang the air.—Halévy, after having traced the five lines of music on paper, wrote down the notes of the glee, while the King sang them.—"Now," said the King, "you must put the English words to the music." And he repeated them, but soon perceived that he had forgotten a verse. "Stop," he said, "I will write them out for you, myself." And he did write them on the noted paper. "You can say in Paris that I can still write excellently, and that my hand does not tremble. I used to sing that air forty years ago in London, before the English fine ladies. I could even give you the address of the music-seller where it was to be bought in those days."—MM. Scribe and Halévy took leave, undertaking soon to set to work. The King, who walked unsteadily, accompanied them to the door of the room,—making them promise to return soon. Louis Philippe died at St. Leonard's scarcely a month after this interview.

The amusements of deposed monarchs would make a strange chapter in the "Curiosities of Revolution." We have not forgotten how the captive of St. Helena, to beguile his tedious hours, teased his host's daughter, Miss Balcombe, by running away with her ball-dress. But Napoleon's boyish expedient seems to us more intelligible, as the distraction of an hour of exile, than a serious convalesce—held by the author of '*Bertrand et Raton*,' the composer of '*La Reine de Chypre*,' and the pupil of Madame de Genlis,—over an opera-book. It is true, that while H.M. Louis Philippe was on the throne of France, according to Dr. Véron, he had taken great interest in musical drama. It was under his patronage, if not precisely at his instance, that the orchestral portion of Grétry's '*Richard*' was retouched by M. Adam, and that '*Le Déserteur*' and '*Félix*,' with similar modifications, were subsequently represented at the *Opéra Comique*.

Concerning the last-named musical retoucher, Dr. Véron has much to say. M. Adam, besides being a pretty composer, whom some of his inferiors have hated because he had the luck to become popular, has proved himself a man of sense and tact by his contributions to musical journalism, and will care little to be reminded how he began his theatrical career, more than thirty years ago, as player on the triangle at the orchestra of the *Gymnase* for two francs a night. How other of Dr. Véron's artistic associates may like the extreme intimacy of his revelations we do not pretend to guess. To our eyes they pass the bounds of what is permissible, even among friends. We should fancy, for instance, that Mdlle. Rachel, if she have time to read so poor a piece of comedy as this book, may partake of our opinion,—indebted though she be, Dr. Véron tells us, to the obstinacy of our *Bourgeois*, for much of the public notice excited by her first appearances at the *Théâtre Français*, and for the first invitation to a genteel party with which she was honoured after she became a "somebody."—The two anecdotes, however, which we paraphrase, by way of closing this notice, have no mischief in them.—

When still a child (says Dr. Véron) Mademoiselle Rachel, who had been already admitted to the *Conservatoire*, besought some private lessons from an artist justly esteemed and of serious talent, M. Provost, *sociétaire* of the *Comédie Française*. On seeing the feeble and unhealthy girl, "Go, and sell nose-gays," was his reply. The young *Hermione* charmingly revenged herself one evening for the contempt

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of her comrade who had proved so false a prophet. The theatre was crowded,—all the boxes were filled with the best company,—*Hermione* called for with enthusiasm, recalled with a storm of applause, was able, when the curtain was down, to fill her Grecian tunic with the flowers which had been flung on the stage. Running after her friend, who had advised her to go and sell nosenags, she dropped on her knees before him with coquetish grace,—“I have followed your counsel, Monsieur Provost, and sell nosenags—will you buy one?”

Dr. Véron subsequently illustrates how “the Muse of Israel” has graceful coquettishries at command for other persons besides disobliging actors. Early in her career *Mlle. Rachel* was judged elegant and discreet enough in her manners to be admitted to Madame Récamier’s select circle at the Abbaye-aux-Bois, where only that which was finest and most orthodox was permitted to penetrate. When arrived within those holy precincts, Dr. Véron tells us how she was ingenious enough at once to compliment an Archbishop thoroughly to his liking, and to proclaim herself a Jewess, not ashamed of her Judaism, as follows:—

At one of the literary morning parties which were often held at the Abbaye-aux-Bois, *Mlle. Rachel* had been requested by Madame Récamier to recite before M. Chateaubriand some scenes from the part of *Pauline*, in ‘*Polyeucte*.’—

Mon époux, en mourant, m’a laissé ses lumières;  
Son sang, dont tes bourreaux viennent de me couvrir,  
M’a dessillé des yeux, et me les vient d’ouvrir,  
Je vois, je sais, je crois!

This scene was interrupted by the unexpected entrance of the Archbishop of —. “Monsieur,” said Madame Récamier, a little embarrassed, let me present to you *Mlle. Rachel*, who is just reciting for us one of the scenes of *Pauline*, from *Polyeucte*.—“I should be distressed,” was the answer, “to interrupt the fine verses of *Cornélie*.” But *Mlle. Rachel*, in a delicate scruple, would not go on with her scene before the Prelate,—would not cry out, as a converted Christian, “*Je vois, je sais, je crois!*” and utter a lie (so to say)—before a minister of the Catholic church. “If *Monsieur* will permit me,” said she “I will recite some passages from ‘*Esther*’; thus remaining—thanks to the drama written by Racine for the young ladies of St. Cyr—faithful to the Jewish religion. When *Mlle. Rachel* had concluded, the Archbishop praised her most warmly. “We priests,” said he, “have seldom the pleasure of approaching the great artists. But twice in my life I have had this enjoyment. At Florence I have heard Madame Malibran in society; and I am indebted to Madame Récamier for an opportunity of having heard *Mlle. Rachel*. To declaim such fine verses so well, one must feel all the sentiments which they express.” *Mlle. Rachel* made the most charming reverence, and looking down, replied gently but firmly, “*Monseigneur, je crois!*”

—By the side of the above repartee, the neatest answer of *Mlle. Jenny Lind* to her Transatlantic idolaters, published in the American papers, shines but as a piece of paste when matched against a genuine brilliant.

The last pages of this Fourth Volume are devoted to the *Constitutionnel* and its affairs, in which, as the world familiar with French journalism knows, the name of Dr. Véron has been closely mixed up. But though he seems to have published every scrap of private communication that he thinks can fill a page,—here printing a letter from M. Thiers “the revolutionary,”—anon, three communications from Madame George Sand regarding ‘*Le Meunier d’Angibault*,’ which she furnished to his journal,—later still, certain verses from Madame Sophie Gay in acknowledgment of the *bonbons* and flowers with which the gallant *Bourgeois* repaid her obituary notice of Madame Hamelin,—there is nothing at the close of the Doctor’s Fourth Volume which tempts us to mitigate the judgment recorded at the commencement of this article.

## NEW NOVELS.

*Idaline: a Story of the Egyptian Bondage.* By Mrs. J. B. Webb. Bentley.

Mrs. Webb has here given us a modern religious love story—dressed up with Egyptian names and dates. The authoress seems to know as much of her subject as Rollin’s History and a few visits to the British Museum can teach her;—but of the “wisdom of the Egyptians” and of the meanings that underlay their religious and social life she takes no note;—with her, all is “debased superstition” and “degrading idolatry.” *Idaline*, the heroine, is the daughter of the renowned high-priest and magician Jambres, who, with his coadjutor, Jannes, stood up against Moses and Aaron when they pleaded for the deliverance of Israel. She is betrothed to Sothis, a young priest of Osiris,—but she falls in love with one Jared, a handsome young Hebrew, “whose noble stature and simple garb, waving hair and manly beard, marked the Hebrew as a stranger in the land, and invested him in *Idaline*’s eyes with an interest she had never felt before.” He converts her, of course, to the Hebrew persuasion, and she becomes at the same time convinced that “to wed an Egyptian, an idolater, would not only render her life miserable, but would perhaps endanger her everlasting safety.” Between her clandestine love and newly-adopted religion *Idaline* becomes very disobedient, and deceives her father by surreptitiously obtaining his permission to instal a Hebrew maiden as her confidential attendant.—

“But the Pontiff did not know that Adah was a Hebrew,—and it was with some pangs of conscience that *Idaline* took advantage of her father’s unsuspecting kindness and installed a despised Israelite in his dwelling. But she felt that the welfare of her immortal soul was paramount even to her duty to her parent; and she hoped to derive both spiritual knowledge and spiritual strength from her intercourse with a confirmed believer such as she knew Adah to be, and, therefore, she was enabled,” &c.

In her preface, Mrs. Webb hopes that she “may not shock any prejudices of her readers.” We confess that our old-fashioned ideas of rectitude and uprightness have been rather shocked by the tone and teaching of this book; and we should carefully keep it out of the hands of any young person of our acquaintance. The most objectionable feature in most modern religious novels, and particularly in the one before us, is, that the profession of certain abstruse points of sectarian divinity (which vary according to the creed of the author) is set up as paramount to all the ordinary considerations of duty and obedience. We may notice also, as another serious fault, in these serious writers, the entire absence of modest misgivings on the part of hero and heroine that they may be wrong, and their natural pastors and masters in the right. In the present case, *Idaline* goes through the book preaching at a great rate to her father, and causing great trouble and inconvenience to everybody connected with her. The doctrines she upholds are curiously modern,—such as, most assuredly, neither Jew nor Egyptian ever heard or guessed,—and they are set forth in the most approved modern doctrinal terminology! In the end, poor old Jambres makes a deathbed repentance,—gives *Idaline* his blessing,—and places her hand in that of her lover; and immediately after his death, “with a bitter pang, she bade farewell to the mortal remains of her beloved father.”—and, without waiting for his burial, she and her handmaid “entered the covered carriage which Jared had brought, and, with feelings of mingled grief and thankfulness,” she set out for the land of Goshen.

As a story, ‘*Idaline*’ would be excessively

dull, if the absurd incongruity betwixt the modern style of thought and the extreme antiquity of the places and people did not provoke an occasional laugh,—which the authoress was far from intending. In other respects, the book is weak and foolish.

*A Physician’s Story.* By Heberden Milford. 3 vols. Hurst & Blackett.

THIS is a long, rambling, disjointed story, resembling nothing that occurs to us so much as the pieces of a dissected school-map huddled together,—which the reader is expected to take the trouble to join for himself. Any meaning or interest the story may possess is carefully disguised in such involutions of fine phrases and magnificent synonyms that it is like reading an incantation to get at it. The reader may try his skill upon the following passages taken at random,—and if he enjoys the exercise, he will find similar ones scattered in abundance through the three volumes,—lighting up the dim perplexities of a story, in which we candidly confess to having completely lost our way. —“And what said Godfrey, or rather what felt Godfrey, subsequent to the departure of the pseudo-M.P.? *Pity, aye pity, so often dry-eyed and stony-hearted, could not have avoided ketching her orbs had she known the crushing agonies of his bosom.*”!!!!—“The syren tongue of voluptuous indulgence had led him into the haunts of temptation and guilt, and like that suicidal bird which drinks the crimson current of its own vitality, his sinful passions were feeding on his own destruction.”!!!!

We have furnished our own meed of italics and notes of admiration. Is not this enough for mortal stomach at one meal?

*Life’s Lesson: a Tale.* Low & Co.

THE owners of circulating libraries tell us that there is at present a great demand for American stories,—and such persons ought to know something about the matter. We should, however, say that ‘*Life’s Lesson*’ will be apt to promote a feeling of satiety with such viands. Those details of American life which, illustrating as they do, a different phase of society from our own, give a certain interest and individuality to many tales of otherwise ordinary pretensions, are here entirely wanting,—leaving nothing but some three hundred and ninety-eight closely-printed pages of a dull didactic narrative, compared with which ditch-water might possibly be mistaken for champagne.

*Pictures of Travel from Central America—[Wanderbilder aus Central Amerika].* By Wilhelm Heine. Leipzig, Costenoble; London, Williams & Norgate.

Wilhelm Heine, who is formally introduced to us in a short Preface by his friend, Friedrich Gerstäcker, is a young painter with a decided taste for travelling in out-of-the-way places. In 1849 he was studying decorative art in Paris, when the troubles of the time, combined with his own inclination, drove him across the Atlantic. At first he sojourned at New York; but the manner in which Art was patronized in that great city was not congenial to his feelings. It was not so much a want of liberality, as the peculiar form which liberality took, that he found distasteful. A sale of pictures, with chairs and sofas, under the general category of furniture, and a princely order for a dozen pictorial creations at once could scarcely suit an enthusiastic German. Nevertheless, at Trenton Falls he found a Mæcenas of such a remarkable kind that we cannot resist contributing our mite towards his immortality.—

Mr. Moore, the hospitable, liberal proprietor of the large hotel, an ardent lover of Art, bespoke of us

several pictures of a middle size at a very handsome price, as well as a series of drawings to illustrate a projected description of Trenton Falls. Although Mr. Moore's self-acquired fortune scarcely exceeds an agreeable competency, he is nevertheless a zealous encourager of Art, and possesses a collection of pictures considerable for his means, most of them painted by artists who have visited his hotel. He also reduces the ordinary hotel charge of two dollars a day to one half, when the customer is an artist, and this is moderate indeed, considering the excellence of the entertainment.

When Herr Heine had grown weary of New York and the adjacent "lions," he found an opportunity of visiting a region far more to his taste,—the rarely explored country of Central America. He was to accompany Mr. Squier, formerly *Chargé-d'Affaires* to the United States, in the central republics, and to furnish illustrations to a large descriptive work. Mr. Squier is already well known for his 'Travels in Central America,' published last year at New York with abundant lithographs from drawings by Mr. McDonough. He was finishing this in the summer of 1851, when Herr Heine entered into relations with him, and the projected illustrations were to adorn a second work. The scheme, it appears, resulted in nothing, save the small book now before us, in which the young painter has hastily jotted down his observations on men and manners, and the records of his sporting life. Of the rifle we hear a good deal—of the pencil extremely little.

Mr. Squier's book of travels already referred to is such a complete treasury of facts connected with Central America, geographical, political, archaeological, and practical, that little can be added to the information we possess by such a brief and unpretending work as that by Herr Heine. The German author neither devotes himself to those outrageous idols which, like so many caricatures of religious sentiment, are so grimly prominent with Mr. Squier, making the antiquarian's lip moisten as he turns over the leaves; nor greatly busies himself with any of those numerous schemes for connecting the two oceans, which render Central America an object of commercial interest, and which since the discovery of Californian wealth have become more important than ever. A few lines serve for the principal themes of this curious region.

Had Herr Heine travelled in almost any other direction, we should have dismissed him very briefly; but, happily, Central America is one of those countries with which the reader is not "bored," and a gentleman who, after wandering over such unusual regions, contents himself with the publication of 264 very small pages, certainly merits a hearing, especially as he is always perspicuous, and occasionally graphic, though not quite so graphic as might be inferred from his profession, and the title of his book.

His sojourn in New York forms the subject of a sort of introduction; during the rest of the work Herr Heine settles near Lake Nicaragua, and stirs but little beyond the republic of the same name. Republics in Central America are shifty things,—the scenes of frequent revolutions that no native Thiers or Lamartine describes, and are very likely to change their boundaries often.

Of the look of Nicaragua, its people and its buildings, we may get a notion from the following tolerably graphic description of the town of Granada.—

Granada is one of the most important towns on the banks of the lake; and under present circumstances, may almost be called the most important city in the country. The time of its foundation falls within the second period of American discovery; and its founders were those audacious freebooters,

who were so strangely compounded of rude chivalry and blind religious zeal, to which qualities they added a certain amount of tradesmanlike cunning. The houses, which mostly consist of a single story, about 12 or 15 feet high, have the appearance of so many fortresses, with their doors 6 or 8 feet broad, and their grated balcony windows. The chief places in the establishment are invariably the first court, which is an arcade adorned with ornamental plants, and the reception-room in the front of the house, to which the ladies' apartment is usually adjoining. \* \* A second or back court is surrounded by the stables and kitchen (in which cookery is performed on the bare hearth, as the culinary apparatus of Europe and the United States is here unknown), which latter apartment serves at the same time as an inclosure for poultry and other "small deer" which is killed fresh for every meal. In the back court there is frequently a draw-well; but the water is generally fetched from the lake, as the springs are almost always of a mineral kind. The borders of the lake are very animated at sunrise; women and girls appear with large earthen vessels, like the ancient amphoræ (only larger belled) on their heads, to draw water; passengers on horse and foot enjoy the coolness of the morning; and almost every visitor treats himself to a bath. At a later hour, these give way to the washing-tubs and the men employed about the shipping, who transport the goods from the boats to large two-wheeled vehicles, drawn by four or six oxen. The streets are then filled with Indians of the neighbouring villages and *haciendas*, who offer their produce for sale. When the distance is short, they carry their burdens on their heads in large wooden bowls; or we may say, if we please, they wear monstrous wooden hats, which they turn upside down for purposes of portage. Little naked boys on mules and horses bring to market loads of young maize, which serves as fodder for horses; while the inhabitants of the town partly carry on their trade in their shops, the women being employed in feminine avocations or the manufacture of cigars. The greater part of them, however, lie in hammocks, smoking and rocking, and occasionally regaling themselves with a draught of *teate*,—a not unpleasant decoction of maize-meal, sugar, cocoa and water. Smoking is practised by male and female, old and young. A father will often send a child of four years old into the kitchen for a light, and the little messenger will return with the glowing cigar in his or her mouth, puffing away like the funnel of a steamer. The costume of the ladies consists of a muslin petticoat fastened close to the skin round the hips, and adorned on the hem with spangles. Above the waist, the higher classes wear a short upper garment, with wide folds, resembling the Greek peplon; but with the lower classes this part of the person is quite bare. Often, especially with children, there is an absence of clothing altogether, which causes the ladies of resident Americans to cast down their eyes, or put their hands before their faces. However, all classes adorn their hair, which is usually black as ebony, with jasmine blossoms and flowers of the gayest hue, which give a fantastic beauty to their expressive and often classically regular faces. Their gait, probably through the habit of carrying every burden on their heads, has about it an appearance of elasticity, which lightens the charm of the entire form. Many handsome churches, presenting a strange mixture of Moorish character and Spanish Renaissance, with a very perceptible tinge of the Byzantine style, bear witness to the former power and wealth of the clergy; for it is well known that when the towns were built, a tenth part of every spoil was devoted to the erection of churches and convents. However, the frequent revolutions in the country have produced great changes both in this and in other respects, as the great capitalists have either emigrated or have been subject to heavy contributions. If, therefore, a well-bodied, well-stocked prelate does make his appearance here and there, passing through the streets in his ox-cart, with an escort of two soldiers, this picture of prosperity is more than counterbalanced by the sight of the numerous half-starved *curas*, or village priests, who, like true apostles, ride through the country on wretched asses, to administer the *viaticum* to a dying man in some remote *hacienda*.

The ecclesiastical pride of the wealthier clergy

on one occasion manifested itself to our traveller in a most practical shape.—

On the day before my departure from Granada, I was sitting before the door with Mr. Lane, an American gentleman, when a stout-bodied prelate with his usual escort of two soldiers came tinkling along in his ox-cart. We politely took off our hats; but this, it seems, would by no means satisfy the pious man, for he sent one of his soldiers to make us kneel. This we thought a little too Spanish, especially as he did not carry the host. As we did not comply at once with the demand, the soldier made preparation to strike Mr. Lane with the butt-end of his musket. A genuine Yankee does not understand jokes of this kind, so my companion instantly pulled out one of the six-barrelled New York revolvers, which made me raise my bowie-knife a little. At the sight of this strong defensive position, the hero of war made a speedy retreat behind the prelate's cart, while the prelate himself clenched his fist and thundered down upon us the most frightful maledictions. However, the whole party went off as fast as a team of oxen could be moved with lashes. My friend insisted that I should go with him to the prefect, where we found the wrathful prelate had already arrived. The man of law was so perplexed by our contending depositions, that he dismissed the whole affair as not within his jurisdiction. The American now stated his grievance to the military commander, who put the over-zealous soldier into the black hole for twenty-four hours. I was sorry for the poor fellow, puzzled as he was between conflicting authorities.

Indigo is a great article of produce in Central America; and it is prepared here in a manner different from that adopted in other countries, much to the amusement of Herr Heine.—

Indigo, it is well known, is only an oxide of the juice extracted from the plant by fermentation, which is at first of a green colour. For this purpose the plant is cut close to the root, heaped up in large walled reservoirs, and the whole is put under water. The hot sun acting on the surface soon turns the water saturated with the juice green, when it is drawn off into other vessels, where by constant stirring and whipping it is brought into contact with the atmosphere, and thus gradually acquires its beautiful deep blue. In other countries the stirring process is usually effected by an ox-mill or by water-power; but here a contrivance is adopted which, at the first glance, presents a really comical appearance. Across the vessel is laid a wooden pole, in the middle of which is fitted a sort of rocking-board. Two men sit on this, one at each end, and by their alternate rising and sinking keep the whole machine in motion, like the toy-sawyers manufactured at Nuremberg. A more comical spectacle cannot be imagined than that of these squatting, shrieking, perspiring Indians, copper-coloured above and of the purest indigo-colour below.

Herr Heine gives a long account of a revolutionary movement that took place during his residence at Nicaragua. We shun the details of this "storm in a tea-cup," but by way of taking leave of Herr Heine extract the brief sensible remarks which he makes on the subject, and which may be considered as the "moral" of his little work.—

The nucleus of these ever-reviving squabbles, which nearly exhaust the unhappy country and prevent every wholesome state of things from being brought to maturity, rests on an individual struggle between the potentates of Leon and Granada. On this particular occasion, the Leontines, it seems to me, are in the right, since their cry is for an approximation—very rational as I think—towards a larger federal republic, while the Granadines aim at a sort of Sonderbundism, which will ever be a source of new discord. However, the strangest part of the business is that the whole affair really turns upon the private interests of a dozen leaders or so; while the great mass of the population remain nearly indifferent to it, or, at least, only so far concern themselves that they are sure to fill the bleeding victims of the struggle. Of true patriotism, of a joyful resignation to the public weal, I have seen very little, although the people always have their mouths full of pompous speeches on the subject.



These 'Pictures' of travel are not very bright or fresh. We hope that Herr Heine paints better with the pencil than with the pen. If not, we cannot say that we very much envy Mr. Moore, of Trenton Falls, his acquisitions.

## OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Egypt's Place in Universal History: an Historical Investigation, in Five Books.* By Christian C. J. Bunsen, D.Ph. and D.C.L. Translated from the German, by Charles H. Cottrell, Esq. (Longman & Co.)—This new volume of the English version of Chevalier Bunsen's work is a translation, or rather a new edition, of the second and third volumes of the original German impression, which appeared so far back as 1844 and 1845. Since that time the Prussian Expedition to Egypt has been undertaken, and its results have been given to the world. The learned author has purposely delayed the present translation in order that he might avail himself of the most important discoveries made by that Expedition. The translation, which has been executed under the immediate superintendence of the author, therefore contains much information not to be found in the original, and so numerous are the alterations that it may in some respects be regarded as a different work. At the same time the author adheres in the main to the important results at which he had formerly arrived; he still maintains that the history of Egypt may be carried back with certainty to a period of more than 2,500 years before the building of Solomon's Temple. A critical examination of this important question we purposely reserve until the publication of the concluding volume, which is to contain the restoration of the primeval and political history of Egypt, and for which the volumes that have already appeared do little more than prepare a way and lay a critical foundation. The concluding volume is promised both in German and in English not later than Easter of next year. Under these circumstances, we consider it best—both as regards the interests of author and reader, as well as of the elucidation of the important historical inquiry conducted by Chevalier Bunsen—to reserve criticism until the work is finished.

*The Twofold Slavery of the United States; with a Project of Self-Emancipation.* By Marshall Hall, M.D. (Scott.)—Dr. Marshall Hall, exchanging his customary surgical studies for more popular, as well as more profound, inquiries connected with social economy, thinks rightly that it is well to explain why he offers counsel on a subject lying so wide of his former topics. He has spent fifteen months in the United States, and has visited Cuba and Canada, and his attention, during these travels, was mainly directed to the slave-system. This system he describes as twofold:—that which binds the African in proprietary fetters, and that which curbs the emancipated Black within an iron circle of social disqualifications and incapacities. Upon this notion he bases a plan for setting the slaves free by means of their own efforts. They are to be educated and disciplined, they are to have tasks allotted to them, and each hour of extra work is to represent a certain value, which is to accumulate at interest, in a savings bank. When it has reached a stated sum, this money is to be considered the price of the man, who is then to be declared free. In presenting this, with other collateral proposals, Dr. Hall argues strongly and sensibly; but the weak point of all such theories is, that they count too much on the readiness of the planter class to acquiesce in them. With this reserve, we may accredit Dr. Hall's book as one which illustrates the slave-system fairly, without favour or exaggeration. He does not use the harrow; but readers to whom that instrument is not absolutely necessary, will find his letters worth studying.

*England since the Accession of Queen Victoria: followed by various Statistical Tables from Official Records, and an Historical Survey of the Principles of Protection and Free Trade as propounded by the various Schools of Political Economy.* By E. H. Michelson, Ph.D. (Edinburgh, Black.)—A free and impartial summary of the political action of English parties since the commencement of the

present reign. Dr. Michelson writes coldly, and disposes of his topics in regular and rapid succession. With no interest to uphold, he describes the personal materials of cabinets and their parliamentary measures with equal justice. The Irish and Canadian troubles, the Chartist agitation, the alternations of Whig and Tory power, the Free-Trade conflict, the European commotions, the industrial movement, the attempts at Electoral Reform, and the preparations for war are discussed in order of time; but no attempt is made to anticipate the historian's work. Dr. Michelson only spreads the canvas, and leaves it to be brightened into a picture by any pen with the art and power to touch it with the subtle and permanent colours of history. The task which he undertook, however, he has performed well, and his careful epitome will be welcome to those who would have at hand a sketch of the great series of reforms that have occupied the last fifteen years. It may be necessary to add, that the author, though not a political sectary, writes from a free-trade point of view.

*Charles Dallaway; or, the Restless Man.* (Mozley.)—It is a pity that those who write good little books for the advice and delectation of their inferiors do not set up a little common sense to begin with. It were also to be desired that they should put away the leaven of superciliousness which at present gives their good intentions a very disagreeable flavour. The tone of impertinence which pervades the tracts and good books intended for circulation in the society of the lower classes is quite enough to rouse into activity whatever sleeping devil may lurk in the human nature addressed. The upper classes are often denounced and abused with eloquent parts of speech,—but at least nobody ventures to try to plant them round with quickset hedges of moral stories clipped into sectarian shapes, nor are they pelted with commonplaces, in the shape of sententious observations on their life and errors. Nobody dreams of writing religious advice for Dukes and Duchesses; but every self-complacent young lady of "serious impressions," fancies herself competent to write aggravating observations, and watery religious stories for the use of "poor people." It is to be hoped that this branch of book-making will die out altogether, and give place to works that rational beings may be able to read. In the meanwhile, 'Charles Dallaway,' which has furnished the text for the foregoing homily, professes to be the history of two young linen-draperies, and is, by several degrees, more unpleasant and impertinent than any book of the kind which has lately fallen under our notice.

*Dangers to England of the Alliance with the Men of the Coup-d'Etat. To which are added, the Personal Confessions of the December Conspirators, and some Biographical Notices of the most notorious of them.* By Victor Schelscher. (Trübner & Co.)—Writing with force and passion, M. Schelscher, the ally of M. Victor Hugo, arraigns the union between England and the existing Government of France. In his opinion it injures a good cause, and promotes principles adverse to liberty and to right. With these political considerations we cannot interfere; but it is due to M. Schelscher to say that he is more than passionate—he is logical,—though his logic is deteriorated by the perpetual use of harsh and sarcastic words. He does not share with M. Kossuth the facility to clothe the ideas of a foreigner in the diction of an Englishman; his style, on the contrary, is essentially French, and some reiterations which might be forcible in the original, lose their effect in the translation. But, as an ardent oratorical protest, inspired by strong and honest convictions, this fragment, piquant as it is, will have readers beyond the circle of those who are inclined to hear and believe.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Abstract of the Acts of 17 & 18 Victoria (1854), 8vo. 4s. 6d. swd. Anvari Suhaili, trans. by Eastwick, royal 8vo. 42s. cl. Arvon; or, the Trials, by C. M. Charles, 3 vols. 8vo. 15s. cl. Beretti's Italian Dictionary, new edit. by Davenport and Comelati, 3 vols. 8vo. 30s. cl. Basil, the Schoolboy; or, the Heir of Arundel, 6vo. 3s. 6d. cl. Beautiful Poetry, Vol. 2, 6vo. 8s. 6d. cl. Bertha and Lily, by E. O. Smith, 6vo. 1s. 6d. bds. Brewster's (M. M.) Sunbeams in the Cottage, 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl. Canticles, arranged for Chanting, oblong. 2d. swd. Carlele's Earl of Diary in Turkish and Greek Waters, 10s. 6d. cl. Corder's (J.) The Poet of the Sanctuary, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl. Dana's System of Mineralogy, 4th edit. enlarged, royal 8vo. 34s. cl.

Devies (Dr.) On Diseases of Lungs & Heart, 2nd edit. post 8vo. 8s. Deia Motte's Practice of Photography, 2nd edit. revised, 4d. cl. Dew of Hermon, by a Son of Consolation, 2nd edit. 20mo. 3s. 6d. cl. Duncan's (M. L.) Rhymes for my Children, sq. 1s. 6d. cl. Edgeworth's (M. E.) Popular Tales, new edit. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl. Edward Irving, by W. Wilks, 6vo. 3s. 6d. cl. Edward Vith, (Kinel, Latin Accidence, new edit. 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl. Elliott's (J.) Commentary on Galatians, with French text, 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl. Fleury's (M.) Histoire de France, par Christian, 4th edit. 3s. 6d. Gough's (J. B.) Orations, 2nd edit. 6vo. 1s. swd. Goulburt's Introduction to Study of Holy Scriptures, 3s. 6d. cl. Grotefeld's Materials for Translation into Latin, trans. 8vo. 7s. 6d. Guy's British Primer, 27th edit. 12mo. 6d. half-bd. Handley Cross; or, Mr. Jorrocks's Hunt, 1850, 8vo. 15s. cl. Headman (The), by J. F. Cooper, 6vo. 1s. 6d. bds. Home Lesson-Books, Home Book of Natural History, new ed. 1s. Horton's (Rev. T. G.) True Theory of a Church, 8vo. 1s. 6d. swd. Hutton's (G.) Manual of Arithmetic, 6th edit. revised, 12mo. 3s. 6d. Keppin's (A. L.) World in the Middle Ages, folio, 25s. half-bd. Key's (H.) Pathological and Surgical Observations, 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl. Lorimer's Universities of Scotland, Past, Present, & Possible, 2d. ed. M'Cheyne's (Rev. R. M.) Basket of Fragments, 4th edit. 6vo. 4s. Macfarlane (Rev. J.), The Hiding Place, 3rd edit. 8vo. 3s. 6d. Martine's (Rev. S.) Memoir, by Rev. J. Dunn, 6vo. 3s. 6d. cl. Masey's Ballad of Babe Christabel, 4th edit. rev. 8s. 6d. cl. Men of the War, 12mo. 1s. swd. Mossman's (T. W.) Glossary of Scripture Words, 12mo. 1s. 6d. swd. Napoleon's Apophthegms, a Lecture, by J. Leech, 12mo. 1s. swd. Palgrave's (F. T.) Idylls and Songs, 6vo. 3s. 6d. cl. Picture Story Book, 5th edit. square, 3s. 6d. cl. Plurality of Worlds, 3rd edit. 6vo. 10s. 6d. cl. Prescott's (W. H.) History of Conquest of Mexico, 3 vols. 4s. bds. Railway Lib. 'The Pilot,' and 'Self Control,' new edit. 1s. 6d. each. Royce's (Ident.) Conflicting Principles in Russia, 2nd edit. 3s. 6d. cl. Ryle's (Rev. J. C.) Bishop, Pastor, and Preacher, 6vo. 3s. 6d. cl. Smith's Elementary Sketches of Moral Philosophy, new edit. 7s. 6d. cl. Sunny Memories of Foreign Lands, 4th edit. 2s. cl. Tinsley's Comic Library, 'Our Own Correspondent,' 2nd edit. 1s. Tomlinson's (C.) Objects in Art Manufacture—Paper, 12mo. 6d. Tovar of Wakefield, with Illustrations, 6vo. 3s. 6d. Village School-Mistress's Assistant, 10s. 6d. cl. Waverley Notes, cheap edit. 'The Antiquary,' 6vo. 1s. 6d. bds. Whitney's (W. H.) Metallic Wealth of United States, royal 8vo. 16s. 6d. cl. Whitcomb's (Rev. W. H.) The West, by Abel Hall, 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl. Wright's (Rev. G. N.) Eton Greek Grammar, trans. 7th edit. 4s. cl.

## SAMUEL PHILLIPS.

Samuel Phillips, Literary Director of the Crystal Palace, died suddenly, on Saturday last, from the rupture of a blood-vessel, at the age of thirty-nine. The deceased was an unseen, rather than a known, power in literature,—for he belonged to that class of men whose chief work is anonymous and whose personal fame is swallowed up in that of a popular journal. His acknowledged writings, if we recollect rightly, are confined to 'The Crystal Palace Handbook,' and the 'Handbook to the Portrait Gallery'; but he was also the author of 'Caleb Stukeley,' a novel which had a fair success,—'We are all Low People there,' and other Tales, reprinted from *Blackwood's Magazine* (as was also 'Caleb Stukeley'),—and 'Essays from *The Times*.' Perhaps we ought to say, that these last-named papers are generally attributed to his pen on authority which is more or less satisfactory according as the reader is cautious or careless in accepting testimony.

Mr. Phillips made an early appearance on the stage; in which effort he met with less success than served to satisfy the cravings of his ambition. At the London University he had the good fortune to attract the attention of the Duke of Sussex by a promising essay on Milton; and at the Duke's instance he was sent to Göttingen,—which University decorated him in after years with the honours of a Doctor of Laws. He returned to England to accept the post of private secretary to Alderman Salomons. He quitted this situation to become private tutor in the family of the Marquis of Aylesbury. After a fall from a horse, which broke up his health and endangered his life, he adopted literature as a profession, and made his first appearance as an author in *Blackwood's Magazine* with his tale of 'Caleb Stukeley.' Correspondence on the subject of a local nuisance in St. John's Wood introduced him as a writer to *The Times*; some letters written from Germany, on the Ronge movement in that country, led to an engagement on the leading daily paper; and a series of slashing reviews in that journal on Mr. Charles Dickens and other popular writers, which made the talk of their day, were commonly—though perhaps erroneously—accredited to his name. Later on, through the influence of a Tory nobleman, he became connected with the *Morning Herald*, for which paper he wrote political leaders, not reviews of books; and still more recently he bought the *John Bull*, with a view to resuscitate its popularity and improve his own fortunes. In this department he failed, and the *John Bull* passed out of his hands. Two years ago he came out into greater prominence, in connexion with the Crystal Palace; but so far as regards literature, he remained to the end of his days, a presence, it is true, but a presence unrecognized beyond literary

circles. The effects of his old hurt remained,—for years he was in daily and nightly fear of death,—consumption had laid its stern hand on him; and notwithstanding that of late years his health had appeared to be improving, no one acquainted with his condition is surprised at the suddenness of the blow, which cut him off in the flower of his life and the full ripeness of his powers. Under better physical conditions, his spirits would doubtless have flowed in a more genial channel—his genius would have lost some portion of its acerbity—and his fame might have taken a more attractive and enduring form.

#### JOHN DALTON AND THE ATOMIC THEORY.

I have just read with mingled surprise and regret a communication in a recent number of your journal (*ante*, p. 1116) from Prof. M'Coy, reviving the old and unfounded accusation, that Dalton borrowed his Atomic Theory from Mr. W. Higgins, of Dublin. The decision of chemists, and of the historians of physical science, has long—and I may say unanimously—been given in favour of Dalton; and if any room for doubt existed previously, it must now, I think, be removed, for all impartial readers, by the statements contained in Dr. Henry's able Biography of the English chemist.

Two questions are involved in the accusation revived by Prof. M'Coy: the one, from whom did the world of science receive those doctrines of chemical combination which are known to English philosophers by the title of "the Atomic Theory"?—the other, by whom were those doctrines discovered or first established? General readers, at least, cannot fail to infer from Prof. M'Coy's statements, that Higgins both discovered and taught the Atomic Theory before Dalton learned it from him.

There is no difficulty in answering the first question. It was by Dalton, and by Dalton alone, that his contemporaries were taught the Atomic Theory. Davy, Wollaston, Thomas Thomson, and Berzelius all agree in acknowledging Dalton as their teacher. Whether, indeed, Dalton obtained his views by honest hard work or by deliberate theft, the fact is unquestionable, that whatever extent Higgins may have preceded him in speculations on atoms, the scientific world knew nothing of Higgins till long after Dalton had made known his conclusions. Perhaps, however, though few others had read Higgins's book, Dalton had? On this point all doubt is removed by Dr. Henry, —who adduces the authority of his father and of the late Mr. Peter Clare, of Manchester, in proof of the fact, that Dalton heard first of Higgins's existence and claims from Sir John Leslie, some time after the publication of the *Philosophical Transactions* for 1811, in which Sir Humphry Davy had drawn attention to Higgins's book—('Henry's Life of Dalton,' p. 78). Dalton's own views on chemical atomic combination had been reduced to the condition in which they now appear in 1803, and had been explained by him to Dr. Thomas Thomson in 1804, as well as partially made public in lectures delivered at Manchester in the same year.

So far, then, as Dalton's originality, honesty, and good faith are concerned, no more need be said. Notwithstanding this, however, if Higgins anticipated Dalton in his discoveries and conclusions, the former assuredly would be entitled to as high a rank among philosophers as the latter, and would, of course, have the claim of priority before him. The views of Higgins, however, fell far short of those of Dalton; and the work of the former might be read, I believe, by an intelligent student of chemistry, unfamiliar with the Atomic Theory, without conveying to him any such information as Dalton's publication could not fail to impress upon him. Higgins's work was published in 1789. Its title—'A Comparative View of the Phlogistic and Antiphlogistic Theories, with Inductions,'—gave no intimation that it contained speculations on chemical atoms; and it certainly was not till Dalton directed universal attention to this branch of science, that Mr. Higgins's statements were brought before the notice of his contemporaries.

These statements amounted to this:—Because

sulphurous acid consists of equal weights of sulphur and oxygen, we may infer it to consist of one ultimate particle of each; and that in sulphuric acid every single particle of sulphur is united with two of oxygen; because, moreover, two measures of hydrogen combine with one of oxygen to produce water, "we may justly conclude that water is composed of molecules formed by the union of a single particle of oxygen to an ultimate particle of hydrogen." Higgins further held, that there were five oxides of nitrogen constituted as those we are acquainted with at the present day are known to be.

These conclusions, highly interesting and ingenious, were purely speculative, and were not consistent with each other. Their author neither sought to establish them by analysis, nor to generalize them into a great theory applicable to all chemical substances.

On the other hand, the so-called Atomic Theory of Dalton is a twofold doctrine, consisting, in the first place, of certain propositions of universal application concerning the proportions by weight in which chemical substances combine with each other, which are based upon analysis, and are true to the extent that any empirical conclusions are true, apart altogether from their exposition in the terms of any hypothesis or theory. In the second place, Dalton saw and taught those conclusions in the terms of a particular inference regarding the atomic constitution of matter. This, strictly speaking, is his "atomic theory of chemical combination by weight." Now, Higgins neither discovered those laws of chemical combination by weight which Dalton first systematically explained, nor did he announce any formal hypothesis or theory of atoms. His merit was sagaciously to conjecture that certain bodies unite atom to atom according to what we should now call the laws of constant and of multiple proportion. That there has been no unwillingness to acknowledge the merits of Higgins in this respect will be apparent to any one who reads the terms in which he was referred to by Sir Humphry Davy in 1811; by Dr. T. Thomson in his 'History of Chemistry'; by Dr. Daubeny in his work on the Atomic Theory; by myself in the 'Biographical Sketch of Dalton,' published in 1845; and not least fully by Dr. Henry in his 'Life of Dalton,' where the claims of Higgins are liberally, not to say impartially, dealt with.

The sum of the matter is this. Higgins was one of the partial anticipators of Dalton; but in an historical point of view, his publication is of much less importance than those of Wenzel (1777) and Richter (1789), with whose views Dalton was familiar before he published, though not, as there is every reason to believe, before he had devised, his Atomic Theory. The philosophers who were closest on the track of Dalton, and would, had he forborne publishing, have announced conclusions similar to his, were Wollaston, and especially Berzelius, to both of whom in 1803 the name of Higgins was unknown.

Yours, &c.

GEORGE WILSON, M.D.

Elm Cottage, Edinburgh.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

TO-DAY we conclude our report of the proceedings of the Liverpool gathering of the British Association:—a gathering equalled by few and surpassed by none of its predecessors in the extent, variety, and usefulness of its labours.

A legal opinion, reprinted from the *Jurist*, on the subject of copyright, now lies before us, in which the "glorious uncertainty" of the law obtains another tribute. Contrary to the reading of the general public—and of publishers especially—it is herein maintained that the late decision of the House of Lords does not affect the question of foreign copyright in this country. We do not profess to see our way in the matter. When the decision of the House of Lords was made known, we expressly abstained from stating what in our opinion would be the effect of that decision,—feeling ourselves, as regards the legal point, quite at sea. Practical men, however, with more courage than ourselves resolved the question in their own interests,—and against the rights of the original

authors and publishers. Perhaps they were legally safe in this reading of the law:—but we feel bound to warn them that the rights and wrongs of piracy are not free from question. Trouble may overtake the reprinters when they least expect it.

A report, started by a contemporary, and incautiously admitted into the *Publishers' Circular*, is going the round of the press, to the effect that the popular reprints of Scott and Bulwer have failed commercially, and are both discontinued or about to be discontinued. Various details are given respecting the bargain of the living Novelist and the Messrs. Routledge—such as, that the contract for re-publication has been cancelled, and a large sum of money paid over. The whole of these statements are romance. The reprint of the *Waverley Novels* is not discontinued:—the 'Antiquary' was subscribed within the last few days; and the proprietors have, we think, strong cause of complaint against those who raise and propagate reports so injurious to their interests. Messrs. Routledge & Co. suffer from the same false report; and we are not surprised at receiving from them an indignant protest. We very willingly lend our columns for the purpose of enabling them to correct the misinformation of our incautious contemporary. They say:—

"2, Farringdon Street, Oct. 18.

"A statement having been issued by Messrs. S. Low & Co., in their *Publishers' Circular* of the 16th instant, to the effect that it is currently reported that the agreement between Sir Bulwer Lytton and Mr. Routledge has been rescinded, we lose not a moment in asking you to permit us, through the medium of your journal, to give a most unqualified denial to Messrs. S. Low & Co.'s unwarrantable assertion. So far from there being the slightest truth in this attack upon our house, we most positively and unequivocally assert, that not only does our agreement with Sir Bulwer Lytton remain intact, but that we have fulfilled every engagement we entered into with him. We have communicated with Sir Bulwer Lytton, who is at this time absent from town; but immediately that we are in receipt of his answer we shall make it public. We may also be allowed to add, how far from the issue of Sir Bulwer Lytton's works not answering, as Messrs. S. Low & Co. have insinuated, their circulation has been quite equal to our expectations.

We are, &c.

"GEORGE ROUTLEDGE & Co."

The sudden death of Dr. Evans, head-master of the Bristol Grammar School, is announced in the local papers.

Among the subjects of lectures prepared for the winter season of the Islington Literary Institution, we notice as having popular elements and possibilities, 'The Genius and Writings of Mendelssohn,' by Mr. Mellish,—'Lord Byron, the idol and the victim,' by Mr. J. T. Topham,—'The Physical Condition of the Planets—are they Habitable Worlds?' by Prof. Hunt,—'Electro-Chemistry,' by Dr. Bachoffner,—'The History of Printing,' by the Librarian, Mr. Simpson,—'The Coloured Residents of London,' by Dr. Latham,—'Boccaccio and Cervantes,' by Mr. Cowden Clarke,—and 'The Romantic Literature of France,' by Mr. P. B. St. John.

A genial accomplished writer in the *Quarterly Review*—which oracle, we are glad to see, is chastening the old ardour of its spirit by a larger dealing with literature—makes an effort to revive an interest in that brilliant wit and satirist, Samuel Foote. Foote deserved a better fate than the neglect which has fallen to his lot:—and the article in our contemporary will assuredly help to set him in the light once more. In his day Foote was a power in the world. In conversation he had a readiness which was overwhelming:—a readiness never equalled, perhaps, except by a celebrated wit of our own day. The *Quarterly* has gathered some of his bright repartees together.—

"He was talking away one evening, at the dinner-table of a man of rank, when, at the point of one of his best stories, one of the party interrupted him suddenly with an air of most considerate apology, 'I beg your pardon, Mr. Foote, but your handkerchief is half out of your pocket.' 'Thank you, Sir,' said Foote, replacing it; 'you know the company better than I do.' and finished his joke. \* \* The night at his friend Delaval's, when the glass had been cir-

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culating freely, one of the party would suddenly have fixed a quarrel upon him for his indulgence of personal satire. 'Why, what would you have?' exclaimed Foote, good-humouredly putting it aside: 'of course I take all my friends off; but I use them no worse than myself, I take myself off.'—'Gladso!' cried the malcontent, 'that I should like to see: upon which Foote took up his hat and left the room. \* \* \* Why do you attack my weakest part?' he asked of one who had raised a laugh against what Johnson calls his *deposition*: 'did I ever say anything about your head?' Dining when in Paris with Lord Stormont, that thrifty Scotch peer, then ambassador, as usual, produced his wine in the smallest of decanters and dispensed it in the smallest of glasses, enlarging all the time on its exquisite growth and enormous age. 'It is very little of its age,' said Foote, holding up his diminutive glass. 'A stately and silly country squire was regaling a large party with the number of fashionable folk he had visited that morning. And among the rest,' he said, 'I called upon my good friend the Earl of Cholmondeley, but he was not at home.'—'That is exceedingly surprising,' said Foote; 'what! nor none of his people?' Being in company where Hugh Kelly was mightily boasting of the power he had as a reviewer of distributing literary reputation to any extent, 'Don't be too prodigal of it,' Foote quietly interposed, 'or you may leave some for yourself.'—The then Duke of Cumberland (the *Politic* Duke, as he was called) came one night into the green-room at the Haymarket Theatre. 'Well, Foote,' said he, 'here I am, ready, as usual, to swallow all your good things.'—'Really,' replied Foote, 'your Royal Highness must have an excellent digestion, for you never bring any up again.'—'Why are you for ever humming that air?' he asked a man without a sense of tune in him. 'Because it haunts me.'—'No wonder,' said Foote; 'you are for ever murdering it.' \* \* \* Much bored by a pompous physician at Bath, who confided to him as a great secret that he had a mind to publish his own poems, but had so many irons in the fire he really did not well know what to do: 'Take my advice, Doctor,' says Foote, 'and put your poems where your irons are.'

We advise our readers interested in the gossip of the time to read the paper for themselves at length.

Miss Glyn is announced to give a series of Shakspearian readings at the Polytechnic Institution—commencing next week. This is another feature in a very popular and attractive entertainment. Under its new management, the Polytechnic is regaining and extending its old popularity.

The Booksellers of Edinburgh have addressed to the Lords of the Treasury a memorial on the subject of recent postal regulations. The material paragraph runs thus:—'With a portion of the second regulation they find a difficulty in complying. It is there stated,—"That no such Publication shall have any cover or outside wrapper, and that the stamp shall be affixed to the title-page, or any other page of the publication (provided it be exposed to view when folded), which page shall form a part of the sheet on which the publication is printed."—The Post-office authorities have decided that this regulation "forbids the use of a wrapper, of whatever colour, and restricts the publication in every case to a single sheet."—It is to this restriction "in every case to a single sheet," that your Memorialists respectfully request the consideration of your Lordships. A periodical weighing three ounces, if printed on one sheet, would be of such dimensions, that few, if any, of the printing machines in this country could throw it off; and supposing the printing to be practicable, it could not be folded so as to retain the ordinary book form of a periodical, without being cut up, and thus its identity as a single sheet be destroyed. —That, to meet the requirements of the regulation, it will be necessary in many instances to limit the size or alter the shape in which the periodicals have appeared for many years, thus breaking up the uniformity of the particular series; and these alterations it is impossible for the publishers to accomplish, it may be, in the middle of a volume.'

In reference to the letter from Mr. Robert Chambers, Messrs. Blackie writes:—"Mr. Chambers says, the revised edition of the 'Biographical Dictionary of Eminent Scotsmen' is put forth with such a form of title-page, and such a description in the prospectus, as are calculated to make the public suppose that I am the reviser and extender, and still the sole literary man responsible for the work.' We reply, that we never intended the prospectus and title-page to convey any such impression. But, since this view of their meaning has been presented to us, we have laid them before various qualified judges, and they all concurred in the opinion, that the obvious construction to be put upon the manner in which these documents

are expressed, is, that Mr. Chambers's connexion with the work ceased with the first edition. The title-page of the work is printed at the head of the prospectus, and the words 'new edition'—revised and continued to the present time—are placed after Mr. Chambers's name, and not before it, as assuredly they would have been had he been the reviser and extender, and still the sole literary man responsible for the work.' (It is somewhat remarkable that, though Mr. Chambers called at our premises in Edinburgh, some months ago, for the express purpose of examining the work, and though he did then examine the first revision of the new edition, and was also shown a prospectus, which he deliberately read over and took with him, of which, fortunately, we have evidence, he never perceived it to bear the construction he now puts upon it, until his wits were sharpened by the splenetic attacks of an anonymous writer in an Edinburgh paper.) Mr. Chambers further says, 'I deny having been made aware that a revised reprint was determined on, in which case I should have claimed some right of interference.' What Mr. Chambers understands by 'a revised reprint' we know not; but that we, from the first, contemplated corrections on the stereotype plates of the work where needful (the course that has been actually followed) the portion of the correspondence between us, fortunately preserved, abundantly proves. We twice applied to Mr. Chambers—at an interval of seven months—for his corrections; and, though in reply to our second communication, he promised 'to look over the early lives and send us the result,' he never did so. Mr. Chambers, when first referring to the proposed corrected re-issue, and in a subsequent note, suggested that we should reset the work in a form that would have required very material re-editing; but on neither occasion, nor in reply to our second request for his corrections, did he give the slightest hint, either that he was willing to re-edit the book himself, or that he desired to have any oversight of the corrections. Moreover, in an incidental conversation, some time prior to our first application, in reference to the present edition, Mr. Chambers suggested our employing some young hand in preparing the work for republication. This circumstance, taken in connexion with the facts already narrated, led us to conclude that he was not inclined to take further charge of the work. In Mr. Chambers's peculiar position—publisher as well as author—we did not feel ourselves called upon to ask his assistance a third time. We submit, therefore, we had no alternative but to effect the necessary revision and correction under our own inspection, unless we had sent out the work exactly as it was, without those emendations and alterations which the very lapse of years had rendered needful,—a course which would have been alike injurious to the author, the publishers and the public. In conclusion, notwithstanding the unfortunate admission, on what appeared to be competent authority, of what Mr. Chambers designates 'a fabulous narrative,' we know, from the inspection of competent parties, that the revision of the work has been judiciously executed.

"We are, &c. BLACKIE & SON."  
"Glasgow, Oct. 16."

COLOSSEUM, Regent's Park.—Admission, 1s.—The original PANORAMA of LONDON BY DAY is exhibited daily, from half-past Ten till half-past Four. Museum of Sculpture, Corner, Waterloo, Swiss Cottage, &c. The extraordinary PANORAMA of LONDON BY NIGHT, every Evening from Seven till Ten. Music from Two till half-past Four, and during the Evening.

CYCLOGRAM, Albany Street.—NOW OPEN, with a Colossal Moving Diorama of the City and Bay of NAPLES, MOUNT VESUVIUS, and POMPEII, exhibiting the great Eruption of '79, and present state of the Excavated City. Painted by Mr. J. McNEILL, from Sketches taken by himself in 1832. Daily at Three and Eight o'clock, with appropriate Music and Description.—Admission, 1s.; Children and Schools, half-price.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION, 300, REGENT STREET.—Under the sole Direction of J. H. PEPPIER, Esq., F.R.S., A. Inst. C.E.—GOOD DRAMATIC READINGS are now added to the other attractions. Miss GLYN will commence on Thursday Evening, the 26th inst., at Eight o'clock, with MACBETH, and continue other readings on Saturday the 28th, and the 2nd and 4th of November.—LECTURE specially addressed to the INDUSTRIAL CLASSES, on Monday Evenings.—Every NOVEMBER IN GENERAL SCIENCE will be secured to the public.—An ever-varied succession of LECTURES, MECHANICAL and COSMORAMIC EXHIBITIONS, MUSIC, the MICROSCOPE, DISSOLVING VIEWS, &c., is maintained daily, from Twelve till Five; Evenings, Seven till Ten.—Admission, 1s. Stalls 2s.

## FINE ARTS

*A Dictionary of Terms in Art.* Edited and Illustrated by F. W. Fairholt, F.S.A. With 500 Engravings on Wood. Virtue & Co.

Mr. Fairholt does not attempt too much. His book does not profess to supply the place of every Art-reference, past, present, and to come. He says himself modestly,—

"The plan embraced in the present work includes all such terms as are generally employed in painting, sculpture, and engraving, whether descriptive of real objects, or the principles of action which rule the mind and guide the hand of the artist. It thus comprises the *Æthetics* of Art, as well as their practical results. But as it is desirable to make this a useful hand-book for all persons interested in Art, all such terms, ancient or modern, as may be used in describing the contents of a museum or picture-gallery, are here explained. Thus, the technical terms for antique vases, or mediæval pottery; sacred and domestic implements; as well as for costume, civil and military, armour, arms, &c. are described; all which form the component parts of a picture, or may be included in its description; notices of the various schools of Art, and of public picture-galleries in England; an analysis of colours and artistic implements; descriptions of ornamental woods or precious stones; a brief notice of the saints and their symbols; such manufacturing processes as call Art to their aid, or such terms in architecture and the cognate arts as are necessarily used in general Art. Other works may be consulted with advantage by the student who wishes for detailed information on any particular branch of these—such as Costume, Architecture, Heraldry, &c.: to all such subjects books have been devoted, sufficiently lucid, and embellished with illustrative engravings; throughout this Dictionary, such books have been carefully indicated in foot-notes, as a further guide to the student; our principal object being to include only those terms which are generally and familiarly used, leaving the most abstruse for the pages of such volumes as may be more properly devoted to explanations which would exceed our regulated space, and belong rather to the peculiar than to general Art. Thus, while this Dictionary exhibits a somewhat wide range of subject, the restrictive limit embodied in its title will prevent its resemblance to any other; giving it a completeness and utility as a general reference-book to all students or amateurs of the Fine Arts."

Johnson's age thought his Dictionary sufficient; nevertheless, some scientific, etymological, and antiquarian Dictionaries were found essential as adjuncts, though Johnson's remained the logical and grammatical standard of our language. We never laugh at the man that read through Johnson's Dictionary. A Dictionary is often very pretty reading. There must have been a fine imagination in that speaker who used to prepare for a parliamentary debate by dipping cursorily into the Doctor's Quotations. It is good light reading for a spare moment; we examine ourselves in a Dictionary; and if plucked, instantly prepare for a fresh trial: we can settle unresolved points of miscellaneous learning, verify doubts, extend theories, confirm judgments. Learning that would not have been formally sought is found conching under the letters Z and X; and the learning we would have looked for is deepened and widened. In looking a word out, every one knows, from a boy, that more is learnt in the search than the discovery. If the prey is only a foul fox, the hunt is pleasant. Johnson looked at the backs of books to know where certain knowledge was to be found;—in a Dictionary knowledge is found abridged and classified.

Mr. Fairholt's Dictionary is, as we expected, a careful, judicious, well-compiled work;—stronger, perhaps, than necessary in his own point, costume and antiquities, and rather weak in the chemistry and severer branches; but we know no one who could have written a Dictionary of Art with fewer omissions. The illustrations are good, but rather scanty, for want of room, and are often appended to objects familiar to us since the days of our illustrated spelling-books. The scymetar, bow, trident, and palette-knife, are instances in point. In other cases, they are affixed to small antiquarian words, of secondary importance, such as, *Almayne rivets*, *infula*, &c. A few of the words have no relation to Art, such as *pinnacle*, *quintain*, &c. This Dictionary of Mr. Fairholt is certainly an advance on any book of the kind at present extant.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—The clock-tower opposite the London-Bridge Station is now nearly completed. It is the most tasteful erection of the kind in London. Its little spire, its gilded vane, its sculptured niches, foliated finials, and deep-cut



mouldings are worthy of a Belgian market-place. It is not unlikely that it will influence in time the surrounding architecture, for it is full of that firm-set, sheltered effect that true Gothic architecture possesses, and has nothing of the flimsy stucco appearance which pervades the domestic architecture of the present day.

"In your notice of my engraving of 'The Spanish Gipsy-Mother' in last week's *Athenæum*, my name is given as *Thomas O. Bailord* instead of *Thomas O. Barlow*. Should I not be asking too much, might I request you to make this correction, as it is of consequence to me.

"I remain, &c. THOMAS O. BARLOW."

"Victoria Road, Kensington, Oct. 17."

Mr. Milnes has entered the lists as a competitor with Mr. Bell for the monument of Montgomery at Sheffield.

Three new churches are to be built at Paddington; and the Bishop of London has subscribed 1,000*l.* for the excellent and necessary purpose.

The first stone of a monument to the memory of O'Connell was laid last week in Ireland. It is to combine a small chapel, a round tower, and a high cross,—a rather incongruous mixture.

An Architectural Exhibition will be opened in the Suffolk-Street Gallery some time in December.

A Mr. Crowley, of Lavender Hill, Surrey, has just written a very stuffy little pamphlet called 'The Age we Live in,' in which he tries to prove to the members of the Clapham Athenæum that High Art is no evidence of civilization; and failing to do which, he succeeds in proving himself a shallow writer and shallow thinker. His eighteen pages are not good enough to be remembered, and yet too wrongheaded to be forgotten. Mr. Crowley looks with a bilious eye upon the present age; and sees apocalyptic forebodings in small bonnets, late parties, and smoking. The use of the word "governor" to a father by a son is anti-Christian; and a masked ball is anti-everything. The whole work is meant to show that civilization educates the mind and not the heart, and that we do not grow better as we grow wiser. It says nothing of the revival of religious feeling, of our increased charities, of our wider missionary exertions, of the higher moral tone of society, of the abandonment (in the majority of the higher classes) of gambling and drinking, and other vices. About Art and its influences he is silent. The height of Art, says Ovid, is to conceal it; and Mr. Crowley seems to think that the way to write on Art is never to mention it. If lecture-rooms encourage such logic chopping—such weak sophistry—the sooner they were reformed the better.

A marble statue of the late Marshal St. Arnaud is to be placed, by command of the Emperor Napoleon, in the gallery at Versailles.

The statue of Gustavus will shortly be erected in the town of Pultus, in the Island of Rügen, to commemorate the arrival of the Swedes on German soil. Stürmer has carved it in sandstone, eleven feet high. Including the pedestal, it will stand forty feet.

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

Mlle. CRUVELLI.—Since our notes of last week concerning the *Grand Opéra* were sent from Paris, Mlle. Cruvelli has set her seal on her reputation there, by abruptly quitting the theatre and the capital without giving an hour's notification to any one concerned. A writer, supposed to be in her confidence, has hinted in the *Constitutionnel* that she has only gone away to be married, and that she may come back, after the honeymoon, if people will not be too hard on her. It was time, indeed, that this Lady should do some new strange thing, to stimulate public wonder. Whether her incompetence as *Julia*, in 'La Vestale,' and her late London failure have helped to quicken the sharp sense of French connoisseurship we know not; but we can speak, from personal experience, to the fact, that her popularity was rapidly waning in Paris. This must ever be the case with those who are exalted for qualities not possessed by them,—supposing they exhibit themselves long before the same public. *La Gabrielli's* caprices, renowned in musical annals, would never have been endured

save for *La Gabrielli's* exquisite vocal accomplishments. Charlatany and pretence must be found out; and, in proportion as their reign is likely to be short, so, naturally, must the efforts of their upholders be violent. While we offer these remarks in justification of past criticisms, we offer them with regret that any one calling herself an artist should have recourse to such dishonourable means of making amends for her deficiencies. Mlle. Lind began the interesting game of contract-breaking.—Miss C. Hayes followed suit.—Mlle. Joanna Wagner (figuratively, of course) "played the knave,"—but Mlle. Cruvelli's fourth card of the trick is the boldest stroke of all; such abrupt breach of faith being rendered worse by the unprecedented munificence of the terms of her Parisian engagement. Should Mlle. Cruvelli's plan of "bettering herself" become the fashion, managers, whether imperial, republican, or monarchically constitutional, will have to become menagerie-keepers also; binding fast their larks, linnets, lions and lambs, not by gentlemanly feelings of reciprocal obligation,—not by treaties on parchment,—but by lock and key; and only opening cage-doors on the evenings when the "strange fowl" are to warble, whistle, bellow and bleat in public, by way of fulfilling what it seems now-a-days a mockery to call "an engagement."

SADLER'S WELLS.—On Saturday was produced the long-announced spectacular representation of the tragedy of 'Pericles, Prince of Tyre,'—on which occasion the house was full. The doubtful authorship of the drama and the nature of some of the scenes had occasioned much prior discussion among those persons who take an interest in the Shakspearian illustrations produced at this theatre. We have ourselves more than once stated that in our opinion the play of 'Pericles' is not Shakspeare's,—our conviction being founded mainly on the internal evidence. The startling crimes, the vicious manners, and the unsteady colouring of the piece bespeak "a pretence hand" and an undisciplined judgment sufficiently indicative of a youthful poet,—and, in treating the former, a moral one also, despite the objectionable scenes (for the author, like Shakspeare, keeps, as Coleridge long ago remarked, "at all times in the high road of life;—he has no innocent adulteries, no interesting incests, no virtuous vice;—he never renders that amiable which religion and reason alike teach us to detest, or clothes impurity in the garb of virtue, like Beaumont and Fletcher, the Kotzebues of the day,"—or, we may add, like so many of the French playwrights of our own time.) The sin of Antiochus is not apologized for, but painted in hateful hues, and its punishment duly recorded:—

Even in the height and pride of all his glory,  
When he was seated, and his daughter with him,  
In a chariot of inestimable value,  
A fire from heaven came, and shrivell'd up  
Their bodies, even to loathing; for they so stunk,  
That all those eyes ador'd them, ere their fall,  
Scorn now their hand should give their burial.

—Nor does the vice of Lysimachus go without its proper reprehension:—

If you were born to honour, show it now;  
If put upon you, make the judgment good  
That thought you worthy of it.

—Indeed, there can be no doubt as to the kind of lesson designed by the poet; but he is undoubtedly chargeable with great want of taste in the selection of his incidents. Mr. Phelps, in altering the play for representation, has simply, at the risk of unintelligibility, omitted all the passages that express the crimes which he deems unfitting to be named, and barely retained the pantomimic outlines of the events that send Pericles forth upon his voyage. And here it is that this play asserts its originality and distinctive character. It is a Drama of Travel, and in this respect approaches Byron's 'Childe Harold,' the Epic of Travel. First, as already indicated, we have Antioch, then Tyre, then Tharsus,—and these are followed by Pentapolis, Ephesus, Mitylene, and the various scenes on board ship and by the sea-shore. These localities appear to have suggested to Mr. Phelps the sort of scenic illustration proper to the theme. Accordingly, he has employed Mr. Fenton to give pictorial life to our

historical associations, and by the further aid of grouping and costume to revive the grandeur of the Old World. In addition to the specific scenes, we have also a panorama of the voyage from Mitylene to Ephesus, where, in the Temple of Diana, Pericles recovers his long-lost wife. The scenery, we are informed, has been several years in preparation, and the immediate expense of the production is scarcely less than 1,000*l.* We might compare it with the 'Sardanapalus' of the Princess's, but that the scenes are here more numerous, and what is gained in extent is lost in the intensity of illustration. Here, too, there is greater variety: mixed with Assyrian are Greek costumes, scenery, dancing, and other accessories,—the whole, we must in justice add, blended with admirable harmony. The same may be said of the acting, in which the labour of the stage-manager throughout is manifest. Every one has been evidently disciplined, so as to preserve order and relation, and the due distribution of light and shade, with the skilful adaptation of colour and effect. We miss, therefore, the inspiration of individual actors, but we catch the pervading agency of a presiding intelligence, which insures the requisite unity of so multifarious an action. The opening of the second act, with Pericles washed on shore at Pentapolis, lying on the beach beside the angry ocean rolling and roaring under the red canopy of a stormy sky, was strikingly grand. The ship at sea rocked with the tempest was also a fine piece of machinery; while, on the other hand, the shore of Tharsus was exceedingly picturesque. The dramatic action up to this point is scattered, but here it acquires suddenly a certain unity, being confined to the fortunes of Marina, the lost daughter of Pericles. Those who regard Shakspeare as the author of portions of this play, trace his hand especially in these scenes;—the poetry of which, certainly in sweetness and power, is greatly superior to that of the previous acts. *Dionysa*, the wicked queen (Miss Atkinson), has certain tragic speeches, which, in delivery, proved of remarkable force. The manner in which she taunts her husband for his reluctance to concur in the death of Marina, might be cited as anticipating the more elaborate scenes of *Lady Macbeth*. The following point, in particular, told well—

You are like one, that superstitiously

Doth swear to the gods, that winter kills the flies;—

and lost nothing by Miss Atkinson's style of elocution, which is fitted for the stern and ironic. *Marina* (Miss Edith Heraud) is one of the most delicate creations of the drama, and notwithstanding the unseemly accessories which mar its effect, one of the most poetic characters. Its attributes are youth, simplicity, innocence and intelligence; and it presents a charming contrast to the more violent group of passions and vices by which its safety and honour are assailed. It is evidently formed on the favourite notion of the old poets, to which in particular Spenser and Milton avowed their allegiance,—that chastity "clad in complete steel" its maiden owner, and secured her, like a talisman, from every danger. *Pericles*, as performed by Mr. Phelps, is a thoroughly elaborated impersonation, and throughout his various adventures demanded the manifestation of very opposite powers. The performer had evidently well studied the representation, and expended upon it all his resources. It was acted with never-failing attention and an amount of care that implied immense labour; nor was the effect disproportioned to the pains. The scene of recognition with his daughter was admirably acted:—the fine gradations, with all their poetry of expression, being distinguished with the nicest art. Other performers deserve commendation:—Mr. Marston as *Cleon*, Mr. Lunt as *Simonides*, and Mr. Ray as *Cerimon*:—the last was an exquisite portrait. Miss Cooper's *Thaisa* was dignified and tender;—Mr. Robinson's *Lysimachus* manly and graceful. But, as we have already stated, the general impression is more to be regarded than individual efforts; and the merits of each are absorbed in the skilful combination of the various elements that enter into the entire performance. For the extent of illustration, and completeness of execution, this is certainly the most laborious and the most ambitious of the many spec-

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tacular revivals for which the Islington management has become celebrated, and cannot fail to excite interest.

OLYMPIC.—'A Blighted Being' is the title of a new piece produced on Monday, derived from the French 'Une Existence Décolorée,'—and designed for the exhibition of Mr. Robson's talent for the tragi-comic. The hero is a literary aspirant, whose efforts meet with no encouragement, and who is consequently on the verge of desecration; but he wishes to die scientifically of some subtle poison which shall occasion no bodily pain. An Hibernian friend, a druggist, one *Thaddeus O'Rafferty* (Mr. Danvers), undertakes to supply him with the desiderated article; and *Job Wort*—for such is the name of the hypochondriac—is henceforth haunted with the dread that his fatal wish is about to be realized, according to the letter of the contract, without his being conscious of the fact. Life, with all its attractions, becomes on the sudden inexpressibly dear, and his terror is in proportion to his new-born love. There was in Mr. Robson's two-fold misery—his first impatience of the world's coldness, and his subsequent agony because of the desperate remedy to which he had resorted—not only the height of the ludicrous, but something that was fearfully painful; and gave to farce the excitement of the most tragic interest. It was a relief when the proper solution was found for his distress,—a distress deepened by the circumstance that not only had *Job Wort* learned to love life, but to love a lady,—a fair innkeeper (Miss Turner), whose brother, a nautical surgeon (Mr. Leslie), undertakes to cure him of his despair; which he does by pretending to intercept the patient's order to the Irish chemist, and exchanging it for one of a harmless character. What we have stated may suffice to suggest that Mr. Robson's acting was in his forcible vein of caricature; but the full effect of his activity can only be adequately understood by being actually witnessed. The part is one of the most original of his assumptions. The general cast also was carefully attended to; and the minutiae of the scene were as evidently regarded as the bolder characteristics; thus producing a totality of impression which insured the utmost success of which the piece was capable.

ADELPHI.—Mr. Morris Barnett has added a third and a fourth character to his French impersonations, — and concluded his engagement on Monday with his benefit, when he performed *Mons. Jacques and Havreack* in 'The Old Guard.' As we have previously intimated, these parts have been rehearsed here for performance in the United States; where, we trust, that this veteran servant of the stage, in the two-fold capacity of play-writer and play-actor, may receive the encouragement which it is now his care to solicit. He will, however, we understand, have to contest the palm with Mr. Placide, who in these eccentric characters has already earned an extraordinary reputation; nevertheless, the neatness with which Mr. Barnett realizes the French manner, cannot fail, we think, to command an extensive recognition.

ST. JAMES'S.—Mr. Ranger commenced on Monday his peculiar round of characters, with his favourite part, — *Pro in the comedy of 'Vanity Cured.'* He was well received.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—'La Nonne Sanglante' was produced at the *Grand Opéra* of Paris on Wednesday evening last. We shall speak in detail of this work next week.

The production of the 'Heart of Gold' at the Princess's Theatre, on which we commented last week, has called forth a formal protest from its author. Mr. Jerrold, in the journal of which he is editor, writes:—

"For obvious reasons, 'A Heart of Gold' is not a subject for criticism in this journal. A few facts, however, may be given by the author in this his farewell to all dramatic doings. The piece was written some four years since at the solicitation of Mr. Charles Kean, and duly paid for. The hero and heroine were to be acted by himself and Mrs. Charles Kean. They were, in fact, written to be acted. Subsequently, however, Mr. Kean's tragic claims were ques-

tioned in a wicked publication called *Punch*; and the actor himself graphically rendered in certain of his many moods of dramatic inspiration. Whereupon Mr. Charles Kean broke his compact with the author of 'A Heart of Gold'; he would not play his hero, but find a substitute. A new cast of characters was proposed, against which the author gave his written protest. But Mr. Charles Kean had, in 1850, bought the drama, and therefore, in his own mercantile way, conceived that in 1854 he had a right to do what he liked with his own black-and-white 'nigger.' The author thought differently, and stood to his protest. Despite of which, however, on the close of last season, Mr. Charles Kean's solicitor informed the author's solicitor (there is parchment on Parnassus!) that 'A Heart of Gold' would be produced at the commencement of the present season. To this no answer was made. The author had once protested, and that he thought sufficient to Mr. Kean and to himself. Nevertheless, the piece was put into rehearsal; and yet, the author had no notice of the fact. . . . Yet it is under such wilful injuries committed by a management that a drama is, nevertheless, to be buoyant! It is through such a fog of a play's brain that the intention of the author is to shine clearly forth. With a certain graceful exception, there never was so much bad acting as in 'A Heart of Gold.' Nevertheless—according to the various printed reports—the piece asserted its vitality, though drugged and stabbed, and hit about the head, as only some players can hit a play, hard and remorselessly."

—One word in the above calls for comment. It is that in which Mr. Jerrold speaks of his "farewell" to the Drama. To this we would most earnestly recall his attention. For our own part, we shall be slow—selfishly slow—to believe in the retirement from dramatic labours of the writer who, beyond all his contemporaries, has upheld the glorious traditions of the English drama, in an age when public indifference and managerial bad taste have combined to subject this part of our literary empire to the domination of foreign influence and the degradation of foreign models. Now, less than ever, can the national drama afford to lose Mr. Jerrold.

So much has been circulated and attested concerning the improvement made by Madame Stoltz, during her seven years' absence from the *Grand Opéra* of Paris, that we were naturally curious to hear it, and took advantage of the lady's sudden recall consequent on the sudden flight of Mdlle. Cruvelli. Alteration there seems to be rather than progress:—the lady's voice has become as harsh and violent as the mixture-stop in some old French organ. In her execution we failed to perceive the advance so loudly vouched for. Madame Stoltz, however, acts with her former fire and scenic propriety; and, as being a dramatic artist more real than the ladies whom she has succeeded, may possibly keep for awhile the place resumed by her.

In these days of incompetence and impoverishment, every one who may become a singer counts:—thus, Madame Pepita Gassier, whose first appearance at the Italian Opera of Paris was mentioned last week, claims a word of notice. Her name bespeaks the Lady to be Spanish,—and thus 'Il Barbiere' was well chosen for her *début*. She has succeeded, triumphantly say the journals of the minute. Less enthusiastic chroniclers may content themselves with mentioning the materials for genuine success which Madame Gassier possesses. Her voice is a *soprano sfogato*, the best notes of which are from the middle C of the treble scale up to E, probably to F *altissimo*—a true, piercing, yet not disagreeable voice,—rescued from the inexpressive shrillness to which such highly pitched organs are liable by that peculiar characteristic which we have found in others of her country, a certain asperity akin to the not unpleasant bitterness of the Seville orange. The lower notes have less resonance,—or it may have been the sedulous snoring of an American gentleman and his courier, in the stalls hard by (and they snored from beginning to end of the opera), that prevented them from reaching our ears. Madame Gassier's execution is audacious rather than perfectly finished. Her scales are rapid rather than exact,—her shake is brilliant,—her *staccati* rival those of Madame de La Grange;—but something of measure, something of taste, something of experience, seem wanting. Her appearance is pleasing, but peculiar: no eyes, were they ever so large, ever so fiery, could speak from beneath the shade of eyebrows so ample and so dark as hers. She does not act much,—yet there are inclinations of dramatic readiness in the play of her countenance and in her gestures—above all, when she listens. On the

whole, we are curious to see Madame Gassier in some second part:—and not the less so to ascertain how far intercourse with a public like that of Paris may temper, complete and harmonize that which seemed to us odd, unfinished and inconsistent in her performance. M. Gassier was the *Figaro* to his wife's *Rosina*; and as a singer thoroughly confirmed the good impression made on us by his *Assur*. In Signor Rossini's operas he is, doubtless, an acquisition of great value.

There was a report on the *Boulevard des Italiens* the other day that the requisite number of "Mileords" have been found willing to suffer in purse for the purpose of re-opening *Her Majesty's Theatre*, and that Signor and Madame Puzzi will shortly arrive in Paris to engage a company.

We have been told that the *Manner-gesung Verein* of Cologne has again entered into an engagement with Mr. Mitchell, and will, probably, sing in London early in the year 1855.

It is said, that the report of Signor Rossini's painful loss of health is a false one.—It is announced, that M. Liszt may possibly emerge from his seclusion at Weimar, for the purpose of again giving concerts, and that he has even some intention of visiting America.—It is more certain, we believe, that Herr Ernst contemplates taking up his residence in England.

An opera by M. Rubinstein, the young Russian composer, is about to be produced at that place of experiment, Weimar, early in November.—Col. Lvoff, whose 'Undine,' it may be recollected, did not please at Vienna a couple of years since, has finished another opera.—M. Flotow's 'Indra' has been produced in the Austrian capital, without exciting any sensation.—'L'Etoile du Nord' has been given at Stuttgart, and it appears, brilliantly given:—since M. Meyerbeer (not the easiest to please of living *maestri*) is known to have expressed his high satisfaction on the occasion, especially with the acting and singing of Madame Marlow, who sustained the part of the heroine.

M. Vuillaume, the well-known Parisian violin-maker, has been convening the amateurs to hear some new instruments by which a graduated *septett*, having the violin for its apex and the *octo-basso* for its base, is furnished to composers. Whether this increased subdivision of means will be attended by a multiplication of ideas among those who write chamber-music is problematical.

A letter addressed to Klopstock by Gluck, said to be hitherto unpublished, appeared in the *Gazette Musicale* of last week. The date is Vienna, May the 10th, 1780. In this, the composer of 'Alceste' refers to an intention of setting Klopstock's 'Herrmannschlacht,' and goes on to say,—“You do not know why I am behindhand with it. It is because I wish to end my musical career with this task. But although it may be my last work, I trust that it will not be my weakest. I hope this, because I collected the principal ideas for it at a time when age had not yet chilled my spirit.” The reader may recollect that the setting of this same 'Herrmannschlacht' was one of the tasks under the immediate contemplation of Mendelssohn at the time of his death.

The Paris journals state that a comedy in four acts mysteriously submitted to the committee of administration at the *Théâtre Français* has proved, on examination, to be a work of the highest merit. Its author, hitherto unknown, is said to be a simple *bourgeois*.—A new play by Madame Dudevant has been accepted at the same theatre.—There seems to be "a run" on Muscovite stories: M. Scribe, it is stated, has a Russian drama on the *tapis*, with principal parts in it for M. Bressant and for Mdlle. Rachel. The latter artist, it would seem, can neither leave nor remain at her theatre without conducting her affairs on the "greatest-trouble" principle. She is now before the *Courts* of Paris for having thrown up the part of *Medée*, after having accepted it, in a new tragedy, by M. Legouvé.—Madame Arnould-Plessy will return from St. Petersburg to the *Théâtre Français* in the course of next spring.



TWENTY-FOURTH MEETING OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

TUESDAY.

SECTION A.—MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE.

The Abbé MOIGNO presented to the Section a new Arithmometer, or Calculating Machine, by M. T. De Colmar; and as the Abbé spoke English with difficulty, he requested Prof. Wilson to explain the machine to the Section. The machine, which was very beautifully executed, consisted of an oblong box, about 30 inches long by 6 inches wide. On the face, the machine was furnished with a handle to turn round a number of small holes, at which the digits of the common arithmetic scale, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 0, made their appearance as the machine worked, and which finally gave the answer. In this machine they were eight in number, but they might be extended to any number. To each of these was an index to be set to the required digit, engraved on a small attached vertical scale, and a small ivory ball to be moved along its scale according to certain simple rules, as the operation to be conducted by the machine varied from addition to multiplication, &c. Upon drawing out the sliding bottom of the machine, the machinery was exposed to view. This, though simple, could not be intelligibly explained without the machine or diagrams. The chief part of it consisted of eight cylinders so arranged that, as they turned, the digits, enamelled on a circle at their upper parts, came in succession to the holes in the face; while by a number of indentations arranged spirally round them the digit to which the index was set would be stopped at the hole on the face at the digit corresponding to that at which the index was set; while by a set of pinions a connexion was given to them something similar to that in the common bank-note machine, so that addition could be performed and the result appear on the face:—thus by turning the handle once, the number itself appeared; by turning it twice every digit in it was doubled, and the result appeared above as twice the number originally set, and so on with any multiple of the number so set; then by moving the ivory ball any simple multiple of 10 times, 100 times, 1,000 times, and so the number set could be obtained and added to those previously obtained, and thus the operation of multiplication performed of any number by any number to the extent the machine could give, in this case up to 99,999,999 or nearly 100,000,000. The Professor then exemplified this, by setting a large number and multiplying it by a number which consisted of three digits. He then explained how the other operations were to be performed,—showing that the machine could add, subtract, multiply, divide, raise to an integer power, or extract the square or cube root with precision and rapidity. The price of the machine exhibited was 50*l*.

Prof. WILSON then, on the part of the Abbé MOIGNO, presented and explained Babinet's Homolographic Maps.—In the maps on Mercator's projection, although the relative geographical positions were accurately and simply laid down, yet there was a great distortion, particularly in those lands and seas towards and about the Polar regions; and the same remark was more or less applicable to all the ordinary projections used in maps. But in those of M. Babinet, by making the principal meridians in both hemispheres straight lines, and the others, on each side of them, arches of ellipses passing through the Polar points, and their ellipticity varying with their position by a simple law, the exact harmony and proportion of the several parts, land and water, countries and places, on the map were correctly preserved when accurately laid down. M. Moigno presented to the British Association through this Section a map of the world on this construction.

M. DUBOSCQ then presented to the Section a philosophical apparatus for showing in projection on a screen to a large auditory all the phenomena of light; but as the authorities of the Association had requested M. Duboscq to permit Prof. Stokes to exhibit and explain at the evening meeting the apparatus, and to show with it the leading phenomena of light, it was not now dwelt on.

'On an Apparatus for Elliptically Polarized Light,' by M. DOVE.—If a ray of light be incident in a plane perpendicular to the edge of an isosceles prism, and in a direction parallel to the base (or face equally inclined to the two others), and the refracted ray, after being totally reflected at the base, emerge at the third face, the emergent ray will be parallel to the incident, and its course may even be a continuation of that of the incident ray. If the incident ray be polarized, the polarization will be modified by total reflexion. If now two such prisms, of proper angles, be mounted in a tube, so that their edges are perpendicular, and their bases parallel to the axis of the tube, and one of the prisms be moveable about the axis of the tube, a ray entering the tube in the direction of the axis will pass through both prisms without deviation, whatever be their relative azimuths. If the prisms be placed with their bases perpendicular to each other, it is plain that in case the ray be polarized its state of polarization will not be changed; but if one prism be turned round through 90°, the effects of the two total reflexions will conspire. In this way all varieties of elliptically polarized light, from plane to circular, may be produced without the lateral transport of the ray, which is so inconvenient in Fresnel's Rhomb.

'On some Stereoscopic Phenomena,' by M. DOVE.—The author was chiefly induced to draw the attention of the Section to this subject in consequence of Sir David Brewster, who he greatly regretted was not at this meeting, having denied at the Belfast Meeting the soundness of the explanation which the author had given of the cause of the appearance of those bodies which exhibited the metallic lustre. This, he considered, to arise from the superficial layers of particles being highly, though still imperfectly, transparent and permitting the inferior layers to be seen through them. This effect we see produced when many watch-glasses are laid in a heap, or when a plate of transparent mica or talc being heated red hot is thus separated into multitudes of thin layers, each of which, of inconceivable thinness, is found to be highly transparent, while the entire plate assumes the lustre of a plate of silver. This explanation receives a very striking confirmation from the stereoscopic phenomena which he now drew attention to. He then presented to the Section and described a very simple and portable modification of the stereoscope, consisting of two lenticular prisms mounted in a frame like a double eye-glass. Upon examining with this two diagrams drawn one for the right, the other for the left eye, with lines suited to give the idea when viewed together of a pyramid, cube, cone, or other mathematical solid, but the lines on one drawn on a white ground, the other on a dark or coloured ground, on viewing them together the solid appeared with the metallic lustre. The author termed it "Glance." This, he conceived, demonstrated his original idea to be correct.

'On a Method of measuring the Absorption of Polarized Light in doubly refracting Crystals,' by M. DOVE.—A feeble degree of double absorption in a crystal may be detected with great delicacy by using the crystal as an analyzer in viewing, suppose, a piece of unannealed glass in polarized light. The same method may be modified, so as to afford a measure of the power of double absorption possessed by any crystal. For this purpose, it is sufficient to combine with the crystal a plate of glass, or a pile of plates, which is inclined until it exactly compensates the polarizing power of the crystal, which is known by the complete disappearance of the figures in the unannealed glass. The angle of inclination affords data for the determination of the ratio sought.

'On Natural Occurrences that impair the Vision of good Telescopes,' by Mr. C. VARLEY.—1. Everything moving on the earth causes vibrations; the result is tremours, too fine to be known till high magnifying proved their existence, and the very best braced stands would convey them to the telescope. He stated a fact:—On placing his ear close to the ground on Bromley Common he heard, first, a heavy waggon about a mile off,—second, a one-horse cart,—third, a stage coach in Bromley two miles off: their differing distances and approach

were indicated. These he afterwards met in reverse order from their differing speed. This proved tremours which would affect high powers, and from the number of greater causes than these he inferred the earth's surface to be rarely or never free from such. He showed two means of insulation so as to avoid them. First, cushions of wool or thick india rubber under the three feet. Second, supporting the telescope by pulley blocks (which has been done for Newtonians with success), such blocks and ropes being quite incapable of receiving or transmitting vibrations or tremours, and were therefore the most perfect insulators. The high northern support of polar axes received tremours from the earth and enlarged them upwards, but heavy top bars leaning against them might be made real discords or dampers.—2. The every-varying density of the air from vapour, temperature, pressure, and currents.—3. Sounds of all sorts, percussions, winds, and the sea roaring, causing continual vibrations even to the telescope of dense and rare alternations; all which disturbed the passage of light and made the stars twinkle into a much larger diameter than they were known to possess, and this twinkling affected all features equally small, and would ultimately limit the definition of high powers, if we did not remove as much as possible above all fogs and such like interferences and also sounds. From his own observations 600 feet high began rapidly to escape from them and to afford much clearer vision through the atmosphere.

'On Mr. Superintendent Bache's Tide Observations,' by the Rev. Dr. WHEWELL.—In the earlier part of my researches on the tides, of which an account has been given to the British Association on various occasions, I had to speak principally of the accessions made to our knowledge on that subject; but in recent years I have more than once made remarks before this Section on our ignorance on that subject,—meaning by that, that there is much knowledge which we naturally wish for and which is within our reach, but which we have not obtained and are not obtaining. The views which I have there given are further illustrated by the results of the tide observations made by the American Coast Survey under Superintendent Bache. One of the prominent points of our ignorance is the nature of the movement of the water which produces the oceanic tides. When the progress of the tides on different coasts was represented by co-tidal lines, it was found that these lines made a very acute angle with the coasts which they met,—and that the co-tidal lines crossing the ocean were very convex. The great series of tide observations made on the coasts of Europe and America in 1835 and 1836 made this feature, the acuteness of the angle made by the lines with the coast, stronger still. The results of Mr. Bache's observations make the co-tidal lines on the coast of North America still more nearly parallel to the coasts. From this arises a great difficulty in drawing any co-tidal lines across oceans,—and indeed a doubt whether co-tidal lines are proper modes of representing oceanic tides, though, doubtless, they are the best way of combining and representing our observations of littoral tides. The result is, that we are led to consider whether the oceanic tides may not be produced by a great oscillation of the ocean; the littoral tides being derived from them and propagated by co-tidal lines like waves along canals.—(This view has been proposed by Capt. FitzRoy as well as by the author several years ago.)—In what manner the ocean really moves to produce the tides is not likely ever to be made out by tide observations made by separate parties *aliud agendo*; but might probably be determined by means of an expedition (a single ship) sent out to hunt the tides:—to follow them from place to place according to the order and manner suggested by the observations themselves till their connexion is made out. Mr. Bache's survey has also produced other very curious and important results. It has shown the existence of the diurnal tide on the coast of California, in the Gulf of Mexico, and in other places,—and will lead to tide tables of the American ports, which will soon be published. Mr. Bache, after encountering some difficulties, has now obtained sufficient means of

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pursuing his survey, and is doing so with great energy and success.

Capt. FITZROY, R.N., considered that the entire nautical world owed a debt of deep gratitude to Dr. Whewell, for his researches concerning the tides, now continued for nearly twenty years with unremitting zeal and unvaried success. While practical men like himself might be successful in noting and recording the facts, it was only persons like Dr. Whewell, who, by their mathematical attainments, are enabled to arrange those facts and reduce them to a consistent and prolific theory. He believed that the tides of the Pacific, though not so anomalous as they were formerly supposed to be, require for their complete solution a knowledge of some such fluid motion as that referred to by Dr. Whewell, or at least something over and beyond the great translation wave, long supposed to suffice for explaining all tidal phenomena.

Mr. F. OSLER gave a description, with drawings, of his Anemometer and Rain-Gauge at the Liverpool Observatory, combining successive and important improvements upon his original instrument, which he introduced in Liverpool at the meeting of the British Association in 1837, with a Report of the recorded observations.

Prof. PHILLIPS congratulated the British Association on the double triumph which they found to be gained by their exertions upon their present visit to Liverpool. It was at their former visit, now seventeen years since, that Mr. Osler brought forward the first idea of his anemometer. At this meeting, upon their return, they found the instrument in such complete working order, that during that entire interval it had day and night so recorded the state of the wind that not more than nine hours had occurred since in which its phenomena could not be accurately determined from the facts recorded by the instrument. Secondly, it was at the same meeting that the erection of an observatory had been recommended. Now, on their return, they found it in such an efficient condition, that it was not too much to say that for useful practical work it was second to none in the world, under the able direction of such a zealous gentleman as Mr. Hartnup, and aided in the meteorological department by a gentleman of such scientific and mechanical skill as Mr. Osler.—Capt. FITZROY, R.N., begged to add his humble testimony to the very efficient working of the Liverpool Observatory, and its great importance to the cause of the practical navigator. He also eulogized the very beautiful arrangement of the hemispherical cups, as the only correct means he had ever seen for registering the velocity of the wind in passing a place.—Mr. OSLER said he could not claim the merit of the invention of these cups. That was altogether due to Dr. Robinson, of Armagh.

'On the Distribution of Rain in the Temperate Zones,' by M. DOVE.—The author after giving a brief account of the manner in which rains are found normally to prevail in the Torrid Zone, and the causes which produced them, chiefly the ascending currents at the heated equatorial region, then proceeded to point out the numerous causes, general and local, which gave rise to a different and greatly diversified distribution of rain in the Temperate Zones, but showed that there were some localities in the middle of continents, as in Russia and America, where a very similar occurrence of causes such as prevailed in the Torrid Zone, produced very similar results.—Col. SYKES mentioned several places in the Ghauts in India, where circumstances, similar to those noticed by Prof. Dove, could be observed. In that single locality, arising chiefly from differences of level, and of the manner in which the ascending currents of warm and damp air were guided by the character of the inequalities of the surfaces, every variation of fall of rain from 30 to 300 inches deep in the year could be found.—Capt. FITZROY pointed out similar corroborations of Prof. Dove's views from his own observations in South America; and Prof. PHILLIPS adduced several exemplifications from several localities in England.

'On the Meteorology of Nice Maritime for 1853,' by Col. SYKES.

'On the Climate of Nova Scotia,' by Mr. H. POOL.

—The author gave the observations in

deep mines in this locality,—furnishing, as he considered, excellent means,—as well as the usual meteorological observations, and deduced from them certain conclusions; the most important of which were, that, for the climate of Nova Scotia, a new arrangement of the seasons of the year seemed to be required, as the spring seemed to begin late and extend into what is usually considered summer, while autumn seemed to begin earlier, thus taking something from summer as well as ending earlier than it is usually considered to do in more temperate regions.

'Continuation of Remarks on the Climate of Southampton,' by Dr. J. DREW.—This communication was in continuation of a paper printed in full in the 'Report of the British Association for 1851'; and it likewise embraced general observations on subjects connected with practical meteorology. The tables, which have been published, contain the results of observations taken three times daily through the years 1848, 1849, 1850. These now presented continue the series by observations made once a day, viz. at 9 A.M., for 1851, 1852, 1853. The same care has been taken in observing, reducing, and recording, and the same instruments have been used throughout, except that for the last six months of 1853, the observations of Capt. Cameron, R.E., recorded at the Ordnance Map-Office, Southampton, have been substituted, his own barometer having been out of order. The author having found that the mean temperature derived from the 9 A.M., 3 P.M., and 9 P.M. observations indiscriminately, agreed fairly, after the application of corrections for daily range with that deduced from

$$\text{mean of max.}^{\circ} + \text{mean of min.}^{\circ} \\ 2$$

—a monthly correction used in the Greenwich observations — has discontinued the two later daily observations for the last three years, as mean results were all that he aimed at; and after having tested his results by various comparisons, he feels fully persuaded that the mean state of the atmosphere, as regards pressure, temperature, and moisture, has now been determined for Southampton with such an approximate accuracy that for that end alone no further observations are required. The author then proceeds to comment on each of the five tables. Table I. contains the mean pressures for each month of the three years;—the maximum, with the date of its occurrence, the minimum, with the date of its occurrence, and the monthly range, in separate columns. Table II. gives the mean temperature for each month from the 9 A.M. observations,—the mean of the maxima, the mean of the minima, the adopted mean (or calculated from both), the highest reading for the month and its date, the lowest for the month and its date, and the monthly range. The author calls attention to the very near accordance of the two methods of deducing the mean monthly temperature, and adds, that among other tests to which he subjected his observations, is a formula of Mr. Glaisher's, by which that element is supposed to be determined for any place in England, the mean temperature at Greenwich being known. This, for the five years from 1849 to 1853, is  $49^{\circ}.4$ . The formula is  $49^{\circ}.4 + (51^{\circ}.5 - \text{latitude of place})$ ,  $0^{\circ}.9 - 0.00,345 \times \text{height of place in feet above the level of the sea} = \text{mean temperature of the place}$ . This, by substitution of the numbers peculiar to Southampton, becomes  $49^{\circ}.4 + (51^{\circ}.5 - 50^{\circ}.9)$ ,  $0^{\circ}.9 - 0.00,345 \times 60 = 48^{\circ}.8$ , a number nearly identical with the mean temperature of Southampton, deduced from the best observations. Table III. contains indications of the dry bulb, and of the wet bulb thermometers for each month of the three years, the difference, the deduced dew point, the degree of humidity, and the amount of cloud. The author remarks that the degree of humidity at Southampton appears to be consistently greater than that of Greenwich throughout the entire series of three years, as appears from the following comparison.—

	1851.	1852.	1853.
Greenwich.....	0.787	0.791	0.814
Southampton ..	0.823	0.834	0.840
Difference....	0.036	0.043	0.035

He also observes on the anomalies which exist in the degrees of humidity of Stone and York (both inland places), as given in the Registrar-General's Quarterly Report, which seems incomprehensible. Here is the comparison.—

	1851.	1852.	1853.	Mean for Three Years.
Greenwich.....	0.787	0.791	0.814	0.797
Southampton ..	0.823	0.834	0.840	0.835
Stone .....	0.839	0.821	0.868	0.843
York .....	0.905	0.944	0.888	0.946

Table IV. records the number of days of each month during which the wind blew from each of the eight principal points of the compass, and the mean force for each month. The author remarks that observers at several stations must either use very wrong estimates of the force of the wind, or their scale of comparison must differ altogether from that furnished by Dr. Lind's wind-gauge. The discrepancy is so great between several of those he found recorded in the Registrar-General's Report and his own, that he was nearly induced to reject his own *in toto* as worthless, till he became reassured by finding great accordance between his own and those of Greenwich. He then shows that according to the directions given by the Committee of Physics of the Royal Society, if we form an estimate for five places which he selects from the Report for the first quarter of 1852, violent storms must have blown the entire time at all these places. At Southampton, the average pressure of the wind is something less than 2 lb. on the square foot. Table V. is a continuation of Table VI., published in the Report for 1851. It contains a comparative view of the climates of Falmouth, the most southern town in England; Stone, near Aylesbury, an inland place about the middle of the southern portion of England; York, inland, and far to the north; and Southampton, near the coast, but more sheltered than Falmouth. Such comparisons as these the author considers most valuable. This valuable communication is also accompanied by an exemplar sheet for the month of March 1854, to show the manner in which the observations are made, reduced, and recorded. All the observed facts are recorded in black ink; all the reductions and deductions from the facts in blue.

'On the Storms which have visited England and Ireland in 1852, 3 and 4, with Reference to the Theory of Rotations,' by Dr. NEVINS.—Doubts having been started whether or not the rotatory character of storms followed them into high latitudes, the author was led to examine the leading records of storms in England and Ireland for these three years, to ascertain whether or not they partook of the characters of cyclones, viz., having a progressive motion from the west and south towards the east and north at the same time that they had a revolving motion or whirl in the opposite direction to that of the hands of a watch in these latitudes. The observations examined by the author were those recorded in Armagh by Dr. Robinson, at the Liverpool Observatory by Mr. Hartnup, and at the Royal Exchange, London. Those made in Armagh register the velocity of the wind in miles for every hour, and the course to the nearest point of the compass. Those in Liverpool also register the velocity in miles for each hour, and the course to the nearest two points of the compass; whilst those made in London register the force of the wind in pounds upon a square foot, and the course of the wind to the nearest two points. Progressive motion of these storms was clearly marked (as shown in detail in a table) by the arrival of the leading phases of the same storms in succession, first at the most westwardly, and then more and more eastwardly: the intervals from Armagh to Liverpool varying from one to twelve hours. The commencement and the height of the storm invariably arrived first at Armagh, then at Liverpool, then at London, after distinct intervals. In some instances, however, terminated in London before it had so terminated in Liverpool. The rotatory characters of the storms examined were also shown to be clearly marked in a second table. A third showed distinctly that the directions in which the wind was blowing at the same instant at each of these distant localities were different; and the difference the author showed in this third



table was exactly what should result from the revolving character of the general disturbance of the air. So far the theory of cyclones is borne out by observed facts. But the author considers that, on observing the changes of the wind at any one of the stations during the progress of a storm, the recorded facts are at variance with any progressive motion which can be assigned or conceived. He also considers the fact, that from the commencement of the storm to its height is comparatively a much shorter time than from its height to its cessation, to be inconsistent with the supposition of their being cyclones: the latter interval being frequently more than twice the length of the former. And on the whole, the author concluded that in these high latitudes storms or masses of air do progress in a uniform order from west to east, and that the changes in the course of the wind during a storm indicate more or less of a curved direction; but that these changes are inconsistent with any uniform rotatory character; and that, judging from the observations of these three years, the law of cyclones does not obtain in the storms which visit the British Islands.

This paper gave rise to an animated discussion, in which Capt. FITZROY, Prof. STEVELLY, and Prof. DOVE took part: the latter expressing his conviction that the cyclone character of storms was correctly assigned to them; and pointing out circumstances which would cause the direction of the whirl in the southern hemisphere to be opposite, as it was found to be, to that of those which blew in the northern hemisphere.

'On Pictorial and Photochromatic Impressions on the Retina of the Human Eye,' by the Rev. Dr. SCORESBY.—The author explained with much minuteness, accuracy of detail, and skill in the arrangement, the varying phenomena which presented themselves to him after gazing intently for some time at bright luminous or strongly illuminated objects—as the sun, the moon, a red, or orange, or yellow wafer—on a strongly-contrasted ground, or a dark object seen in a bright field. Upon removing the eyes from the object, the author explained the early appearance of the picture or image which had been thus impressed on the retina, or, as he expressed it, "photographed upon the retina," with the series of photochromatic changes which this picture underwent while it still retained its general form and most strongly-marked features. Also, how these pictures, when they had almost faded away, could at pleasure, and for a considerable time, be renewed by rapidly opening and shutting the eyes. The entire series of phenomena would be more than our space would permit us to describe in detail, as given by the author; but they merit some permanent record of them being published. Indeed, from our own experience, we can affirm that they vary in their general character in different individuals; and even the same individual finds them different, especially as to the succeeding series of photochromatic changes at different periods of life. Some very surprising examples have come within our own experience.

'On some Photographic Drawings of Snow Crystals as seen in January, 1854,' drawn by Mrs. GLAISHER; presented and explained by Dr. LEE.—This collection, including between twenty and thirty varieties, was the result of a morning's observation, on January the 1st of the present year, when snow fell in slight and gently-drifting showers.

'On Photographic Drawings of Meteorological Instruments adopted by the Council of the British Meteorological Society,' by Dr. LEE.—These beautifully accurate photographs, taken by Mrs. Glaisher, were of the standard barometers, thermometers wet and dry bulb, and other meteorological instruments, with their stands and arrangements, as used and recommended by the British Meteorological Society. The Standard Barometers are those made by Mr. Barrow, of Oxendon Street, London, and the several thermometers and their stands by Messrs. Negretti & Zambra, as is also the rain-gauge constructed by Mr. Glaisher.

'On some Simultaneous Observations of Rain-fall at Different Points of the same Mountain Range,' by Mr. W. J. MACQUORN RANKINE.—The observations referred to were made daily and

simultaneously, for a period of 151 days, at two points, distant  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from each other, and differing by about 200 feet in elevation, on the north-west slope of the Pentland Hills, near Edinburgh. The lower gauge, designated as H, was 700 feet above the sea, and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the chain of summits of the hills; the higher gauge, designated as G, 900 feet above the sea, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile from the chain of summits. The total rainfall at G during the period of observation exceeded that at H in the ratio of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 1. For short periods of rainy weather, of from two to eleven days, the ratio deviated from this average value in a somewhat irregular manner, showing, however, a tendency to increase on the approach of winter; for periods of a calendar month the deviations from the mean ratio were much smaller. To throw some light on the question, whether the greater depth of rain-fall at G, as compared with H, was chiefly owing to the higher elevation of the ground, or to the greater proximity to the summits of the hills, the depth of rain-fall at these points was compared with the depth as published by Mr. Beardmore, at the Glencorse Reservoir, on the south-east side of the range, at a point designated by F, only 30 feet higher than H, but almost surrounded by the highest summits of the chain. Notwithstanding the lower level of F as compared with G, the rain-fall at F was somewhat the greater; a fact which seems to indicate that the vicinity of high summits has a greater influence than mere elevation. The gaugings of the flow of the streams by Mr. Beardmore near F, and by the author near G, show that the rain-fall nearer the summits than these points must have been greater still. The rain-fall at H exceeded that at a point in the immediate vicinity of Edinburgh, 230 feet above the sea, in the ratio of 1 to 1.26.

'On the Meteorology of Huggate, Yorkshire Wolds,' by the Rev. T. RANKIN.—The author has for many successive years annually furnished to the Association detailed reports of meteorological observations recorded by himself. The present gave the tabulated results; the observations being taken at 9 A.M. and 2 P.M., in a northern shaded aspect. The tables were—1, of the thermometer, showing, for the year, monthly means of the maximum, minimum, difference, lowest range and greatest range;—2, of the barometer;—3, winds;—4, character of weather;—5, rain;—6, hygrometer. These were accompanied by observations, drawing attention to the days and amount of the most remarkable phenomena under each head. Also, notes of the Great November Wave of Aurora Boreales and thunder-storms; and such a comparison with the recorded observations at other less elevated stations as led the author to the conclusion,—“That the range of the thermometer decreases as the elevation of the locality above the level of the sea increases.”

'On Aurora Boreales observed at St. Ives,' by Mr. J. KING WATTS.—These notes of Aurora, on September the 17th and October the 11th, 1852, October the 31st, 1853, and January the 2nd, 1854,—contained nothing very sterling except the auroral arches, which were not given with such precision, as to time or apparent position on the concave surface, as to be of the least use in comparisons of observations made elsewhere.

'On the Motion of Fluids: a Remarkable Variation in the Great Elementary Law of the Ratio between the Pressure and the Velocity,' by Mr. WILLIAM PETRIE.—The author called attention to the fact, that whereas, by a well-known Dynamic law, the velocity of efflux of fluids, through single orifices, was in the proportion of the square root of the hydrostatic pressure, or difference of pressure, which caused the motion, he had, to his astonishment, found upon trial, that when the passage is made to consist of an indefinitely numerous series of checks, such as a tube containing shot or sand, the velocity of efflux varies in the direct arithmetical ratio of the pressure; and that, in intermediate cases, of a few consecutive checks being placed to retard the flow of the fluid, the law seems to follow various intermediate ratios. He had found that about thirty consecutive checks caused the law of variation of velocity to be as the three-fourth power of the pressure, or about

half way between the square root and direct arithmetical ratio. The author considered this anomaly as very perplexing, as he considered that in a course, however varied or winding, the change of velocity at each part should follow the Dynamic law, and, therefore, so should the ultimate velocity of efflux. He declared his intention to investigate the subject fully.

#### SECTION B.—CHEMICAL SCIENCE.

'On the Re-cutting of the Koh-i-Noor Diamond,' by Prof. J. TENNANT.—At the meeting of the British Association at Belfast, the author gave some account of this diamond, and described some of the remarkable changes which it had undergone, and on this occasion exhibited some interesting diagrams illustrating the crystalline form and cleavage of the diamond. Mr. Tennant now introduced the subject by drawing attention to the former weight of the diamond, compared with its present bulk, now reduced by cutting; and also to its mineralogical appearances. With regard to the history of this extraordinary gem, he stated that some people had actually disputed its authenticity, which caused some discussion amongst those best informed in matters of this description. At the Great Exhibition in 1851, an opportunity had been afforded, such as was never previously enjoyed by the public, of studying the substance of a vast number of foreign valuable stones, and probably the Koh-i-Noor diamond was the most attractive in that valuable collection. The rough manner in which that diamond had been cut, however, had disappointed many who looked upon it. When the sun shone on it at noon-day the stone appeared peculiarly brilliant; but when the atmosphere was dull, it had merely the appearance of a thick piece of glass. This placed it in a very unfavourable position, and caused doubts to arise in the minds of some gentlemen as to its authenticity. This diamond originally belonged to Runjeet Singh, who usually wore it upon his left arm, according to the custom of Eastern potentates; and the original mounting was now in the hands of Her Majesty's jewellers. The stone perfectly agreed with the drawing which had been made of it by Miss Eden, and also of the account given of it by the Hon. W. G. Osborne, who had published a very interesting description of the Court of Runjeet Singh, where the old man (who was blind and a cripple also) sat arrayed in a robe of simple white, wearing upon his arm the Koh-i-Noor diamond, and surrounded by his eastern nobles. On special occasions, Runjeet Singh was in the habit of decorating his horse with this precious gem, together with numerous other valuable stones, mounted upon various parts of his harness. All authentic accounts of the East proved that the nobles were in the habit of decorating their horses in this manner; and the horse of Runjeet Singh was decorated with diamonds valued at 300,000*l.*, the great Koh-i-Noor being placed on the pommel of the saddle. Lord Auckland and his sister, the Hon. Miss Eden, had this diamond sent to them for inspection, in the East Indies, and Miss Eden's drawings agreed with the appearance of the diamond on its arrival in this country. Mr. Tennant then stated that in 1853 he had given in a report as to the cutting of the Koh-i-Noor diamond; and after producing various models, Her Majesty fixed upon the present form, by which the widest spread of brilliancy was obtained. When the diamond was exhibited at the Crystal Palace it weighed 186 $\frac{1}{8}$  carats; its present weight, reduced by cutting, was 102 $\frac{3}{4}$  carats. The Persian diamond weighed 130 carats, and the great Russian diamond 193 carats. After giving a description of the method of cutting diamonds, and the plan adopted for cutting the Koh-i-Noor, he observed that the late Duke of Wellington had been an interested spectator of the operation, and was a frequent visitor during its progress. It was finished in September, 1852, and occupied thirty-eight days in cutting. Diamonds were usually reduced to one-half their weight in cutting; and he gave the exact weight of the Koh-i-Noor, in order to correct various erroneous statements which had been published on the subject. The finest diamond in France weighed 139 carats, and had cost 130,000*l.*; it was called the Regent, or Pitt Dia-

mond. Koh-i-Noor requisite then by value. defects, diamond fused 30*l.* to public. The Kohi stated, the distinguish necessary (ness), who penetrates little attention diam cently p 200*l.*, with an In many imposed which the on the be 'On the augment Iron,' by 'Hints Subjects Science, graphy to by Mr. S. topographic its value observing great use had made scope, and graphs, wative of proboscis specimens most app autely des displayed to be used ascertain and other purposes, movement 'On Ph MERE, co During the large and exhibited, process fol 'On the the Geyse ADAM.—T knowledge late on the is highly p the Iceland found at C intermitter there issue immense been eject longer or count for t assumes t Geyer a s is of a rou less than 3 fissures co of water, l flow into from this its rise fro the lowest the author the Geyser inverted s municates limb, pursu the exit o finds access from the upon, it is

mond. To arrive at an estimate of the value of the Koh-i-Noor the author stated, that it was only requisite to multiply 102 (its weight) by 102, and then by 8, which would give 83,232*l.* as its value. This rule would not apply to stones having defects, as instanced in the celebrated "Nassuck" diamond, for which the East India Company refused 30,000*l.*, and yet this stone, when submitted to public auction, fetched little more than 7,000*l.* The Koh-i-Noor is of the purest water. The author stated, that in order to test a real diamond, and distinguish between that and a topaz, it was necessary to scratch it with sapphire (No. 9 in hardness), which would mark a topaz, but would not penetrate a diamond. He was sorry to find that so little attention had been paid to the means of testing diamonds; and instanced a ring which was recently purchased in Regent Street, London, for 200*l.*, which proved to be two pieces of rock crystal, with an intermediate insertion of coloured glass. In many of our watering-places the gentry were imposed upon by parties selling pieces of glass, which they represented to be sapphires picked up on the bench.

'On the supposed Influence of the Hot-Blast in augmenting the Quantity of Phosphorus in Cast-Iron,' by Dr. D. T. PRICE.

'Hints on the Management of some Difficult Subjects in the Application of Photography to Science, and on the Means of applying Photography to War Purposes in the Army and Navy,' by Mr. S. HIGLEY.—The author produced photographic delineations of the human skull, to show its value to the surgical and anatomical student, observing that by its aid many appearances of great use and interest might be preserved. He had made a variety of experiments with the microscope, and showed numerous specimens of photographs, which he had made, and which were illustrative of the most minute objects, such as the proboscis of flies, the animalculæ of water, and specimens of minute zoophytes. He exhibited the most approved photographic apparatus, and minutely described its operations. Mr. Higley then displayed the moveable apparatus sent to the East, to be used by the Sappers and Miners, in order to ascertain the description of the forts at Sebastopol and other places; as also the machinery for naval purposes, so fixed as not to be affected by the movement of the vessel.

'On Photographs upon Albumen,' by M. FERRIÈRE, communicated by the Abbé MOIGNO.—During the reading of this paper a number of very large and beautiful photographic drawings were exhibited,—as illustrative of the excellence of the process followed.

'On the Cause of the Phenomena exhibited by the Geysers of Iceland,' by Dr. STEVENSON MACADAM.—These Geysers were singled out, because our knowledge of them is such as to entitle us to speculate on the force at work; but, at the same time, it is highly probable that a theory which will explain the Iceland Geysers will also account for those found at California. These Geysers are essentially intermittent hot springs from which, at intervals, there issue successive jets of water, and thereafter immense volumes of steam. When these have been ejected, the Geysers remain quiescent for a longer or shorter time. In endeavouring to account for the phenomena in question, the author assumes that there exists in connexion with each Geyser a subterranean chamber, the floor of which is of a roundish form, and at a temperature of not less than 340° Fahr. At or near the roof there are fissures communicating with springs or reservoirs of water, by which the latter may be allowed to flow into the caverns,—the tube which passes from this cavity to the surface of the earth taking its rise from the side of the chamber and very near the lowest part. Without entering into details, the author assumed this tube (as other writers on the Geysers have done) to be somewhat like an inverted syphon; the shorter limb of which communicates with the chamber, whilst the longer limb, pursuing a tortuous course upwards, forms the exit or emission tube of the Geyser. Water finds access by the fissures into the cavity, where, from the high temperature of the matter it falls upon, it is immediately compelled to assume the

spheroidal condition; its temperature while in that state being 205·7° Fahr. The water gradually accumulates, till at last so much has entered the cavity that the heated floor can no longer keep the liquid in the spheroidal state, the water in consequence touches the mineral surface; its temperature is almost instantly raised to 212° Fahr.; and large volumes of steam are generated. This steam, in its passage to the mouth of the Geyser, encounters a body of water which it raises to the boiling point, and thereafter when no more steam can be condensed it forces the heated water from the conduit. The propelling agent having thus cleared a path for itself, the steam escapes in large volumes, with a rushing sound more or less violent. The author, by means of diagrams, illustrated the various forms which the Geyser might be supposed to present in its internal mechanism. He considered it quite possible that the details given might require to be modified. What he wished to bring prominently forward was, that the spheroidicity of water afforded a means of accounting for the intermittence of the hot springs.

A lengthened discussion then ensued, in which Prof. MILLER, Dr. GLADSTONE, Mr. WARRINGTON, Mr. DAVID FORBES, and others took part.

'On the Production of Sulphurous Acid Gas from the Combustion of Coal,' by Mr. SPENCE.—The author questioned the great benefit likely to be derived from the abolition of the smoke nuisance. The imperfect combustion of fuel, as carried on at present, only led to an annoying deposit of carbon, and this Mr. Spence regarded as a healthy body. By the more complete burning of the fuel, this carbon would be oxidized into carbonic acid, a poisonous gas, and the sulphur at present escaping combustion would pass into sulphurous acid. He instanced the smoke-consuming movement in Manchester, and observed that vegetation in the neighbourhood was being destroyed, owing to the very much larger quantity of carbonic and sulphurous acids which were now thrown into the atmosphere.

Some discussion ensued when this paper was finished, and Mr. LOWE remarked that those parties who did not admire smoke might obviate the inconvenience by consuming gas coke, as was done in the noble Hall where they were assembled.

'On the Effect of Coloured Media on the Growth of Red Algae,' by Mr. R. WARRINGTON.—This paper is reported in Section D.

#### SECTION C.—GEOLOGY.

Prof. WILLIAMSON exhibited a restoration of *Zamites gigas*, described more fully in Section D.

Mr. P. CARPENTER communicated a 'Notice of Land, Freshwater and Marine Shells, obtained by Miss Bright of Malvern, from a well 100 feet deep, on the banks of the Avon, at Birlingham, Worcestershire.'—According to Mr. J. Faulkner, the well-sinker, after passing through many gravel beds, the upper mixed with marl, a bed of rounded flints was met with, from two to four feet thick, containing teeth and fragments of bones of deer, elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, boar, &c. At the bottom was a thin layer of mud, with freshwater shells and rushes. The land and freshwater shells were common existing British species, of the genera Pupa, Succinea, Limnea, Ancyclus, Bithinia, Cyclas, the marine shells were *Pectunculus glycymeris* (rare), *Ostrea edulis* (young), Pecten (fragment), fragments of some sort of whelk, and two minute, undetermined bivalves, one an Astarte, the other apparently a Lucina.

'On the Structure and Texture of Stratified Rocks, as a means of determining the Conditions under which they are formed,' by Mr. D. PAGE.

'On the Discovery of Microscopic Shells in the Lower Silurian Rocks,' by Prof. EHRENBURG (communicated by Mr. LEONARD HORNER).—The minute grains of greensand, which are characteristic of many rocks, have a different nature from the green earth often met with in concretionary masses. The former, from the glauconite of the Paris *calcaire grossier* to the azoic greensand, near Petersburg, appears to consist of green opalescent casts of Polythalamia, composed of a hydro-silicate of iron. The cretaceous greensands of England contain, unmistakably, these stony casts. In the *calcaire grossier* and nummulite limestones occur

beautifully preserved and perfect examples of Quinqueloculina, Rotalia, Textularia, Grammostoma and Alveolina. In the Lower Silurian greensand casts of detached cells of Textularia and Nodosaria were found.—Prof. FORBES said, that Mr. Sorby had discovered Foraminifera in the Aymestry limestone; but as some of the beds with green grains were of freshwater origin, it was almost impossible that all greensand should be derived from this source.—Prof. SEDGWICK pointed out instances in which the green colour was due to particles of chlorite.—Sir R. I. MURCHISON stated, that the whole group of Lower Silurian strata existed near Petersburg, though only 1,000 feet thick: the upper part, representing the Bala limestone, was 50 to 80 feet thick; next came a sandy bed, with green grains; then brown sandstone, with oboli; and lowest of all, shale, with green grains and crustaceans, once supposed to be fishes, in which it appeared that Prof. Ehrenberg had discovered these Foraminifera.—Mr. A. BRYSON said, he had sometimes obtained the silicious shields of Diatomaceæ from boulder clay by means of a fine sieve, when other means had failed, because these objects adhered to the minute particles of mica.

Mr. PEACH exhibited specimens of Old Red Sandstone, containing bitumen and silicified wood (?), from Gallows Hill, near Thurso, and others from the dark flagstones of Wick, Caithness. Also examples of the Wick flagstone, containing layers of broken and compressed shells (?) of the size of the "Cyclas" found by Mr. Dick at Thurso.

'On the Occurrence of a True Cretaceous Formation in the South of Africa,' by Capt. GARDEN and Mr. W. H. BAILY, of the School of Mines.—Prof. FORBES stated, that the supposed cretaceous rocks discovered in South Africa by Dr. Krauss were really oolitic; but that Capt. Garden had found in Natal an extensive stratum containing truly cretaceous fossils. The species were new, and had been described by Mr. Baily. Figures were exhibited of *Ancyloceras*, *Baculites*, *Inoceramus*, *Trigonia*, *Hemistria*, &c.

Mr. E. HULL, of the Geological Survey, exhibited a section across the peninsula between the estuaries of the Dee and the Mersey, from Hilbre Island to Liverpool.—In this neighbourhood the New Red Sandstone, below the base of the red marls, consisted of four well marked subdivisions:—1, Waterstones; 2, Upper soft red and variegated sandstone; 3, Coarse red sandstone and conglomerate; 4, Lower soft red and variegated sandstone. These four divisions were constant along the borders of Wales, from the Mersey to the Malverns, and extended into the central districts, where one or more were occasionally absent, but when present exhibited the same lithological characters. On the section, nine faults were represented, having a direction nearly due north and south, and varying in amount from 80 to 1,050 feet. The total thickness of the New Red Sandstone was stated to be from 1,400 to 1,500 feet. The Geological Surveyors could now tell the depth below the surface to which the New Red Sandstone extended, over the greater portion of its area,—information of great importance in connexion with the search for coal; below the New Red Sandstone there might be Permian strata 1,000 feet in thickness, or unproductive upper coal measures, or possibly, in some situations, workable coal.—Prof. RAMSAY stated, that probably far more coal existed hidden beneath the New Red Sandstone than was exposed at the surface.—Mr. JUKES said, that the Geological Surveyors would be able to point out the spots where a search for coal could be made to most advantage. It would be necessary ultimately to work for coal at much greater depths than at present; but much money was wasted even now in experimental borings of 100 yards or so, when it was quite certain that coal could not exist within that distance.

'On the Submarine Forest of Leasowe,' by Mr. J. CUNNINGHAM.—The occurrence of trunks and roots of large trees beneath low-water mark had induced the belief that a subsidence had taken place of the shores at Leasowe and Formby, and of the estuary of the Mersey, amounting to several feet within the last thirty years. Such subsidence, it was argued, could not have been caused by any deeply-



seated subterranean action, because the rocks at New Brighton, and Hilbre Island, and Hilbre Point—the latter close to the submarine forest—would have manifested some sympathy with the area under the depressing influence, whereas their elevation had been unchanged for centuries. The author had caused two borings to be made: the first gave, sand 2 feet; peat, with trunks of trees, 4 feet; red clay, 16 feet; quicksand, penetrated to the depth of 4 feet only. The second boring was commenced outside the embankment, 8 feet below the level of the marsh; and gave red clay, 10 feet; brown clay with sand-beds 2 or 3 inches thick, and 5 or 7 feet apart, penetrated to the depth of 38 feet. The author supposed that the abrading action of the tides on the edges of these strata would prepare a ready means of escape for the water and sand underneath the clay, during the reflux of the tide; and that the hydrostatic pressure of water at a higher level in the permeable strata, would force the sand from underneath the clay beds, and cause the shore to subside. The clay and peat would resist the action of the water longer, and descend conformably with the undermining of the lower strata until submerged even beneath the level of low water. In Bidston Marsh, which formed a continuation of the flat shore at Lenoze, there were also the remains of an ancient forest imbedded in peat; but in the south-east corner of the marsh trees still flourished at a level only 18 inches above that of the extinct forest.—Prof. HARKNESS stated, that the moss at Formby was interstratified with silt, showing that the sea had sometimes gained access, and at others been shut out; the bitumen of Ormskirk really came from these peat-bogs at Formby.—Sir C. LYELL remarked, that the action of water on clays was much more rapid than on root-beds.

'On the Silurian Anthracite of Cavan,' by Dr. WHITTY.—The author described this deposit as a bed of soft anthracite or culm, about 4 feet thick, occurring in dark grey clay-slate, dipping 80° south-east, with an average strike of 37° west of north. The slaty rock alternated with beds of shale and conglomerate, much altered by metamorphic action. The bed of anthracite varied its direction, but seldom more than a few degrees; it appeared to have suffered much by compression and dislocation, diminishing in a short space to a few inches of thickness, or giving off spurs into the slate rock; portions of the slate were also included in the culm. Its composition was carbon, 77·64; water, 4·35; ash, 18·1. For burning it required mixture with wood or turf. It might be worked like the Cornish mines, being nearly vertical, and the water brought out by an adit, without pumping. The value of culm in Cavan was 8 to 10 shillings per ton; of coal, 24 shillings per ton; the culm would be of value for lime-burning.—Dr. GRIFFITHS stated, that he had not met with anthracite elsewhere in the grauwacke of Ireland; if this bed could be traced at the surface for a long distance, it might be worked like a mineral vein.—Prof. HARKNESS said, that the attempt to work Silurian anthracites in Scotland had been unsuccessful.

Mr. A. BRYSON exhibited specimens from the slates of Peebles-shire, having many convoluted markings, which he supposed to be worm tracks, filled up by matter deposited in them slightly different from the surrounding matrix.—Prof. HARKNESS stated, that they belonged to the genus *Crossopodia* (M'Coy).

WEDNESDAY.

'On Crustacean Impressions from the Trias of Dumfries-shire,' by Prof. HARKNESS.—It was well known that footprints of reptiles were abundant in the New Red Sandstone of Dumfries. Those now exhibited were compared to leech-bites in form, and were believed to be left by crustaceans. They came from an upper bed of sandstone, quarried at Corse Hill, north of Annan. The layers were sometimes ripple-marked and channelled as if by rills of fresh water trickling over a shore.

Mr. J. PRICE invited attention to the geology of a little district, of carboniferous limestone, at Llysfaen and Penmaen Rhos, near Abergelle. The drift here assumed four distinct appearances: 1st, flattish boulders of micaceous

sandstone, with Terebratulæ, were strewn over the surface of the elevated sheep pastures; 2nd, the slopes towards the sea were thickly covered with drift, composed of native limestone in a semi-bouldered state, often scored with parallel lines, the fragments being sometimes eighteen inches across; 3rd, drift of very smooth pebbles of limestone, in a matrix of highly comminuted lime gravel; 4th, a gravel pit at Tyn-y-coed contained pure sea-sand and gravel of small pebbles like the present beach: one of the pebbles had been perforated by the Cliona. There were also lumps of clay stuck over with pebbles. This spot was now three-quarters of a mile inland, and three or four hundred feet above the sea level.

Mr. S. KNIFE exhibited several sections in the neighbourhood of Liverpool.

Mr. CHARLESWORTH exhibited and described several new vertebrate fossils:—1. Vertebræ, supposed to be cetacean, from upper greensand of Cambridge, in the cabinets of the Rev. T. Image and Mr. Reed, of York. Their structure was extremely dense, and the ends marked with radiating grooves as in Mammalian Vertebræ, which have lost their epiphyses. The bodies of these Vertebræ were depressed, giving an elliptical section, and on the dorsal surface was a ridge instead of the usual spinal canal. The vascular foramina were large.—2. Part of the lower jaw of a new mammal (*Stereognathus ooliticus*, Ch.) from the Stonesfield slate, in the cabinet of the Rev. J. Dennis, of Bury. This was the fifth quadruped of the Stonesfield slate, and must have been twice the size of any of the others. The specimen was part of the centre of one division of the lower jaw; its curvature was very slight, and the concavity below. The section, where it was broken across, was rectangular, and as wide as deep. The surface presented no trace of sutures or vascular lines. Three teeth remained, occupying half the length of the fragment, and one of these had six similar cusps arranged in two rows.—3. The skull of a new mammal, named *Platycheiros Richardsonii* (Ch.), from the London clay of Herne Bay; about the size of the Hyracotherium, but quite distinct, having very prominent zygomatic processes, and the crowns of the molar teeth being furnished with one large tubercle occupying two-thirds of the surface, and several small complicated tubercles inside.—4. *Teleosaurus ischnodon*, (Ch.), a new species, in the Museum of the Yorkshire Philosophical Society, with teeth very closely crowded, leaving only a slender bony partition between the sockets.

Sir R. I. MURCHISON exhibited a slab of Old Red Sandstone, sent by the Rev. T. T. Lewis, — one of the greatest contributors to the elucidation of Siluria, who had lately discovered rippled surfaces and trails of animals in the Old Red Sandstone of Puddleston, near Leominster. The tracks were of two kinds, one set perhaps produced by a mollusc, the other by a crustacean.

Prof. BUCKMAN communicated a notice of two elephants' tusks found in the Stroud Valley, Gloucester. The largest was slightly curved, 10 feet long, 3 feet in circumference, and 1 foot 6 inches in its greatest diameter; the other tusk was curved, forming three-fourths of a circle. Remains of rhinoceros and hippopotamus were found in the same gravel.

Prof. BUCKMAN also sent an account of coal deposits in West Virginia. They occurred on the banks of a tributary of the Ohio, 300 miles from Pittsburgh, and 150 from Cincinnati, and were covered by New Red Sandstone. There were five seams of coal, with a total thickness of 20 feet; one bed of splint coal was 10 feet thick. They contained Calamites, Stigmaries, and true coal-measure ferns. The grits below were like those of the Welch coal-field, and nearly horizontal. At the top there was a little band of limestone, with Cyprides, like the Ardwick limestone of the Lancashire coal-field.

MONDAY.

SECTION D.—ZOOLOGY AND BOTANY, INCLUDING PHYSIOLOGY.

The Rev. J. YATES exhibited the Stamiferous flower-stalk of the *Dion edule*,—a species of plant belonging to the natural order Cycadaceæ.

Prof. E. FORBES read a paper 'On some

Points connected with the Natural History of the Azores.'—After giving an account of his views on the geological relation of the Azores to the continent of Europe, the author proceeded to make some remarks on a collection of Mollusca made by his friend Mr. M'Andrew. Amongst them were forty-four species of Gastropoda, seven species of Lamellibranchiate Mollusca, and one species of Cephalopoda. Of these, the whole were referable to the Lusitanian Fauna, and only one species was found in America, and this was found also in the Canary Islands. There was a list also of eighteen species of land Mollusca; one or two of these were peculiar, but the rest belonged to the West Atlantic or Lusitanian Fauna.

'On the Application of Cyanide of Potassium to killing Insects for the Cabinet,' by Mr. G. R. BUCKTON.—The author observed that little or no information was to be obtained from writers on Entomology with reference to killing insects intended for future examination. After noticing the remarkable manner in which some of the Orthoptera and Neuroptera are capable of resisting the action of sulphurous acid, and consequent unfitness of the substance for such a purpose, it was stated that the desired object may be conveniently effected in many cases, by subjecting the living insect to a moist atmosphere at a high temperature. A suitable apparatus was described, and likened to a diving-bell of thin and well annealed glass, having an inner lining towards the top, of cork, upon which the specimen to be operated upon may be fixed by a pin. Suffocation quickly ensues on plunging the bell-mouth downwards into a basin of water at or near its boiling point. After noticing the certain and rapid manner in which the vapour of hydrocyanic acid acts on insect life, and objecting to its common use from its well-known poisonous and volatile properties, it was further stated that cyanide of potassium possesses the useful properties of the acid for such a purpose, without most of the disadvantages. Chemists have been long aware of the peculiar change of this substance, by moisture, into hydrocyanic acid, ammonia and other products, and as the air always contains aqueous vapour, the salt slowly undergoes the same decomposition on exposure at ordinary temperatures. The requisite apparatus is very simple, and consists of a wide-mouthed jar of glass, fitted with a brass cap having an aperture capable of being closed pretty accurately with a slide. The cyanide of potassium, in coarse lumps, is placed under a false bottom of blotting-paper, which serves the double purpose of absorbing the moisture arising from the deliquescent nature of the salt, and is also permeable to the air. A small glass bell, for transferring an insect from the net to the aperture of the instrument, completes the apparatus, which may be carried into the fields. An insect usually dies in a space of time varying from forty seconds to two minutes; but in the larger Coleoptera and Lepidoptera a longer treatment is desirable, to provide against the possibility of future resuscitation. The author considered that the cyanide possessed many advantages over crushed laurel leaves, which cannot always be obtained. The salt, now so extensively used in the arts, is cheap and may be kept for any length of time in stoppered bottles, and is thus available abroad. The instrument, also, is always ready, for a charge of thirty or forty grains will keep up a poisonous atmosphere for a month or longer without renewal. A singular instance of resistance to the action of the cyanide was then exemplified. An impregnated female of the Burnet sphinx (*Atrochroa Filipendulæ*) was placed in the instrument in company with the spectre moth (*Mormo Maura*). The large insect was dead in less than two minutes, but the Burnet was comparatively lively after the expiration of fourteen hours. It is worthy of note, that oviposition did not commence until liberation of the insect from confinement, possibly showing a knowledge on the part of the insect that such an atmosphere was fatal to the larvæ when excluded from the egg or injurious to the vitality of the egg itself. As both the larvæ and imago of *Timon pellionella* was experimentally proved to be incapable of resisting the action of the vapour from the cyanide, a suggestion was made, that furs and

stuffed specimens from moth-sphere. (Continued.)

The action of the cyanide of potassium on insects is sufficient to kill them, and the action is especially employed by Prof. H.

Prof. H. J. Rev. J. M. of a species which produced J. vations, the popular ignorance of those relations such knowledge pointed out thousands of warehouses whom vegetation entirely suggested pool could greatest fact botany which the common

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stuffed specimens of natural history might be freed from moth by subjecting them to such an atmosphere. Of course this could not be used as a preservative, but solely as a cure for an existing evil. The action of the vapour upon the lungs is not of sufficient intensity to cause any annoyance to the operator.

The reading of this paper led to a discussion on the action of poisons on animals.—Mr. BYERLY and Dr. REDFERN stated that frogs could not be killed by hydrocyanic acid.—Dr. LANKESTER stated that a grain of theine, the active principle of tea, would immediately kill a frog. When the object was to examine the living actions of animals, especially their circulation, the best agent to be employed was chloroform.

Prof. HENSLow drew attention to the adornment of an African dress, exhibited by the Rev. James Yates. It consisted of the fruit of a species of grass closely resembling that which produced the product known under the name of Job's Tears. In the course of his observations, the Professor made some remarks on popular ignorance in scientific matters, especially those relating to Botany. This led to a general discussion in which the desirableness of teaching such knowledge in a town like Liverpool was pointed out. Instances were mentioned in which thousands of pounds were sacrificed in the bonding warehouses of Liverpool, because merchants to whom vegetable products were consigned were entirely ignorant of their nature or value. It was suggested that of all towns in the empire, Liverpool could, at the least expense, and with the greatest facility, form a museum of economic botany which might become of incredible worth to the commerce and industry of the nation.

'On the Physiology of Cells in relation to Consciousness and Adaptive Movements,' by Dr. LAYCOCK.—In the absence of the author of the next paper, Dr. Laycock was invited to communicate some of the views he entertained as to the relations of cells to consciousness, and to the adaptation in the movements and functions of organisms to a definite object. These phenomena are variously interpreted in relation to consciousness. While, on the one hand, it was a firmly established opinion that vegetable organisms had no sensation, although they adapted themselves, often with exquisite skill, to external circumstances, of which Dr. Laycock adduced several examples,—on the other, it was an equally fixed doctrine that the lower animal organisms (*c. g.*, insects) were as susceptible of pain as man himself. Now all these adaptive phenomena were manifested in the highest degree in that ultimate constituent of animated beings, namely, the microscopic cell; and that whether the organism was unicellular, or composed of groups of individual cells, or evolved from a primordial cell, there did not appear the slightest ground for concluding that these were endowed with consciousness;—it followed, therefore, that the whole of their adaptive phenomena were the result of a force inherent in them, but distinct from mind. The entire structure of the higher organisms, whether vegetable or animal, being evolved out of cells, and the aim of their whole vital activity being directed to the attainment of the same object as that aimed at in cell action, viz., the well-being and happiness of the individual,—it follows that in these that object may be aimed at wholly independently of the will or the consciousness. Such appears to be the case with vegetable organisms; but, to determine the presence or absence of these in plants, and even the lower animals, is necessarily beyond the reach of observation. It may be argued, indeed, from analogy, that they may possess a sense of pleasurable existence, inasmuch as such an endowment would be entirely compatible with that grand scheme of beneficent adaptation upon which all organisms and the entire creation are arranged. As to insects, experiments show that it is at least very doubtful whether they feel pain; while the infinite variety of instruments supplied to them to administer to their own happiness, and the inherent skill which they display in the use of those instruments (illustrated by the mathematical accuracy with which the domestic bee con-

structs its hexagonal cell) might serve as some proof of the pleasure they may have in existence. Dr. Laycock next proceeded to place the seat of these adaptive movements in the cells of the vesicular neurine which constitute the ganglia of the nervous system, and to show that these could re-act as a co-ordinating apparatus upon the instruments provided by Divine Providence for the well-being of the animal. He stated that the seat of consciousness is almost universally acknowledged to be in the ganglia within the cranium of Vertebrata: yet the headless trunk of a frog would leap away if it were irritated, or swim away if thrown into water. Hence the conclusion, that the cells of the vesicular neurine act under given circumstances as adaptively and yet as unconsciously as in the lowest forms of animal and vegetable life. Dr. Laycock then extended these views to the cells constituting the vesicular neurine of the brain; and argued that it might fairly be inferred, both *à priori* and from observation, that their endowments and works of action were not inferior to those of the vesicular neurine in insects. It followed, therefore, that they also might act adaptively and in accordance with their assigned functions independently of the will or consciousness of the individual. To this automatic action (the link between man's spiritual nature and the external world) Dr. Laycock referred the phenomena of mesmerism, electro-biology, spirit-rapping, &c., and expressed his conviction that the derangement of the intellect which those phenomena implied could not be altogether harmless, but might lead, and, indeed, had led to permanent injury to the brain.

An animated discussion followed the reading of this paper,—in which Dr. REDFERN, Dr. LANKESTER, Mr. ARCHER and others took part.—A MEMBER present ventured to defend the practice of Mesmerism; but the production of those conditions of the brain which are called mesmeric, and the evidence of any good being derived from such a condition were alike regarded as unworthy the attention of the Section, but for the purpose of condemning them as unphilosophical, and likely to lead to injurious consequences.

'Remarks upon some Peculiarities discovered in Liquid Caoutchouc,' by Mr. T. C. ARCHER.—The author stated, that he had discovered the cause of the black colour in india rubber. The ordinary opinion, which had been copied from book to book, that the black colour was owing to the bottles, and other forms of the material, being dried by the natives in the chimneys of their dwellings, is incorrect, for caoutchouc has a peculiar property, by which light acts upon it very powerfully, and produces the black colour. In proof of this, Mr. Archer exhibited specimens of liquid india rubber in white-glass bottles. This liquid had been imported for the purpose of trying experiments as to its power of receiving brilliant colours, and it had evidently received an addition of some liquid ammonia, probably for the purpose of preserving its liquidity and preventing decomposition. In colour and consistency the liquid caoutchouc resembles milk; but two small portions in white-glass bottles had, by the action of light, become jet black next the glass, whilst the interior whiteness and liquidity are unimpaired; whereas, a similar sample of the material in a green-glass bottle retains its original character. Mr. Archer thought this peculiar susceptibility to the action of light was well worthy of notice. He exhibited a specimen of caoutchouc from the west coast of Africa, the quality of which is evidently of a very superior character. Mr. Archer also exhibited a series of diagrams of plants, which he had prepared at the instance of the Board of Trade, for educational purposes.

Mr. HUXLEY read a paper, from Prof. ALLMAN, 'On the Existence of Thread Cells in the Infusoria.' Drawings of various marine animals were exhibited by Mr. PRICE, of Birkenhead.

Mr. HUXLEY pointed out the accuracy of these drawings, and especially drew attention to a small animal illustrated in great detail by Mr. Price, and which was the young state of the common starfish (*Uroaster rubens*).

Dr. LANKESTER read the 'Report of the Committee appointed to experiment upon the Duration

of Vitality in Seeds.'—Of numerous seeds that had been planted only two species produced plants,—and those were *Lupinus polyphyllus* and *L. grandifolius*. These seeds had been kept eighteen and nineteen years.

## TUESDAY.

'On some Materials for making Paper,' by Mr. T. C. ARCHER.—He said Dr. ROYLE had brought under notice the fibrous materials of India, and he seemed sanguine they would prove useful in making so necessary a material as paper. From his own examination, however, he thought those materials were too harsh, and required too much labour to reduce them to a pulp sufficiently fine for making the ordinary letter-paper. Most vegetable fibres could be made into paper, and therefore there was no fear as to the supply of the coarser kinds of paper. The present difficulty was to supply paper for printing and writing upon. This paper required to be extremely white, and smooth in texture. All materials from the East Indies, except cotton wool, were destitute of that roughness of surface required to form a tenacious pulp, and when broken up they resembled straw, rather than the fine woolly fibre of linen rags broken to pieces. There was China grass, plantain fibre, jute fibre, the fibre of the paper mulberry, and the aloe fibre. These and other fibres he had examined, and they appeared perfectly smooth, hair-like tubes. Cotton, and old linen after use, and only after use, had both rough surfaces on their individual cells. He thought it an important point that paper materials should have an adherent surface, rather than a strong fibre, which had the means of attaching itself to its neighbouring fibres, and allowed the pulp to be thoroughly amalgamated. Instead of going to the East Indies, he suggested they should go to South America. He believed that the materials of a proper kind for paper could be procured there abundantly. He had been led to this conclusion by receiving a single sample of bark which he was told could be bought in unlimited quantities. In those countries, the more they cut trees, the more luxuriantly they grew up. He was totally unable to tell them the name of the tree, as that was the only specimen he had seen. They would see by the specimen itself that this was a suitable material, possessing all the wooliness of cotton fibre, as he had proved by submitting it to a microscopic examination. Each individual cell was rough on the surface, and this he thought was the desideratum required. The plant had three or four layers of this fibre. He thought it belonged to the class Thymelacæ, and was nearly allied to the Lace-bark tree. He thought from the palms of South America, from the grasses of the savannahs, and other natural products of that continent more suitable materials could be found than could be derived from India. The bark of our own osiers when stripped off by the basket-makers would also yield a useful material.—In answer to a question, it was stated the material came from the Brazils.

Dr. LANKESTER said it was true these fibrous materials could be found and converted into paper; but the point to be decided was, whether the material could be got in such quantities and at such a price as to make as cheap a paper or a cheaper paper than was now manufactured. They could make paper from nettles and sedges cheaply so long as these grow wild, but if they had to be cultivated the expense would be much increased.—Mr. ARCHER replied, a vessel could be freighted to Liverpool with this material for paper at 10l. per ton, a price below the material from which paper is now made. Mr. Archer further stated the material could be procured near the sea side in large quantities. He suggested that it could be cut up for pulp after the manner of a chaff-cutter.

Mr. P. P. CARPENTER laid before the Section a list of 400 species of shells from Mazatlan; and entered into a comparison between them and the shells of Panama (as catalogued by Adams) and other places. A very large proportion of the Mazatlan shells not having been yet described, all such results will be open to correction. A comparison of the shells collected by Mr. Nuttall on the Californian coast shows the remarkable fact, that scarcely any species are common to that coast and to Mazatlan, although these shells are gene-



rally called "Californian." The importance of tabulating accurate accounts of the Fauna, not only of zoological provinces, but of special localities, was much dwelt upon; and it was suggested that very valuable aid to scientific inquiries could be given by the formation of separate collections belonging to different Faunas. A beginning had been made in Liverpool by the present of a series of Mazatlan shells to the Free Museum (by Mr. G. Hulse),—which was exhibited to the Section. If merchants, captains, and sailors would exert themselves to obtain similar collections, not only the inhabitants of Liverpool, but the scientific world generally, would be much indebted to them.

'On the Influence of Literary and Scientific Pursuits on Health,' by Dr. FOWLER.—The learned Doctor, who is now in his eighty-ninth year, and was present at the meeting, referred to himself as an illustration of the truth of his theory.

Mr. BYERLY made some remarks 'On the Fauna of Liverpool,'—and which he has been preparing for the press. The list of animals was very complete, and comprised some remarkable forms. Amongst these may be mentioned the following:—1. The bottlehead (*Hyperoodon Butzkoff*). In the stomach of two of the specimens captured great numbers of the horny beaks of cuttle-fishes were found, and these were impacted one in another, forming a continuous row.—2. *Trachinus vipera*. In this fish, Mr. Byerly had demonstrated the existence of a poisonous secretion at the base of its spines.—3. *Lisotriton palmipes*, the rarest species of British newt, had been taken near Liverpool.—4. Many of the rarer British fishes had occurred on the coast,—as the opah or king-fish, the Anglesey Morris, the *Torpedo nobiliana*.—5. Many species of Nudibranchiate Mollusca had been taken; and one species, *Antipa hyalina*, is not yet published, but will appear in the forthcoming part of Messrs. Alder and Hancock's work on these animals.—6. The occurrence of *Noctiluca miliaris* in large numbers was noted; and also that it then gave the water a rose-colour. The following is a list of the species of each great section of the animal kingdom:—Mammalia, 41; Birds, 190; Reptiles, 11; Fishes, 100; Mollusca, 185; Crustacea, 71; Lepidoptera, 695; Echinodermata, 10; Acalepha, 14; Zoophytes, 68; Sponges, 5: about 1,400 altogether.

This paper led to a discussion on the want of works on natural history in the libraries of Liverpool. Dr. KIRKMAN stated, that he had in vain sought for works of reference on botany in the libraries accessible to the public in Liverpool.—Dr. DICKINSON stated, that, although he possessed many of the works referred to, and should be glad, at any time, to allow them to be consulted, he was sorry to say that the library of the Botanic Gardens was very deficient.—The Rev. Mr. HIGGINS stated, that they were endeavouring to get up a Museum of Local Natural History.—It was very evident, from the tenor of the remarks, that the active naturalists of Liverpool found little sympathy with the merchant princes of this great city,—and, for its population and wealth, it seems to be worse off in this respect than any other town in the empire.

'On some new Mosses, and on recent Additions to the Muscology of Liverpool,' by Mr. MARRATT.

'On the Restoration of *Zamites gigas* from the Lower Sandstone and Shale of the Yorkshire Coast,' by Prof. WILLIAMSON.—The author commenced by referring to the notices by Young and Bird, Prof. Phillips, 'The Fossil Flora,' and the labours of Mr. James Yates in connexion with *Zamites gigas*. He then explained his views of the structure and habit of the plant,—regarding it as resembling the elongated cylindrical stems of *Cycas circinalis*, rather than the more spheroidal ones of *Encephalartos horridus*. He then described the subterranean buds,—the bark, the fronds or leaves, and their connexion with the stem,—of all which parts he exhibited specimens, and in which the general resemblance to living Cycads was very obvious. He then dwelt at some length on the remains of the inflorescence found at Runswick, on the Yorkshire coast, of which he had met with two distinct forms:—the one a curious scaly axis, prolonged in a peculiar pyriform manner,—which

latter part has been invested by a cortical substance, consisting of oblong cells, arranged perpendicularly to the axis. This portion Prof. Williamson regards as having probably been the antheriferous portion of the plant. A second type consists of a concave disc, which has evidently terminated the woody axis, and been margined by a peripheral circle of radiating bracts. On the upper surface of each of these bracts are two small oblong depressions, which Prof. Williamson supposed may have supported two ovules; but, at the same time, pointed out the great uncertainty respecting the exact physiology of these portions; though the numerical correspondence between these ovules, as usually seen in the cycad cones and the depressions on the surface of the bracts, seems to indicate the probability of such an allocation of parts. The result of the investigation shows that, though the general habit of the plant is that of a true Cycad, its inflorescence has very widely diverged from any known type of that variable class, and, consequently, the necessity for the utmost caution in determining the general nature of the plant from such limited portions of the organism. The elementary materials are often the same in the recent and fossil forms; but, being differently distributed, new and unexpected combinations are continually occurring,—of which *Zamites gigas* is a curious and striking example.

'On the Occurrence in Coal of peculiar Vegetable Organisms resembling the Sporangia of Lycopodium,' by Prof. BALFOUR.—The author stated that much discussion has recently taken place on the subject of coal, and that disputes had occurred which, in many instances, depended chiefly on parties choosing to define coal according to their own views of its microscopic structure. Coal is a rock variously constituted in different localities and even in different parts of the same coal-bed. It varies as regards the quantities of ash and carbonaceous matter as well as in regard to structure. Dr. Balfour stated that he did not believe coal to be in all cases formed of coniferous wood. No doubt in some instances true punctated woody tissue, i.e. a circle and dot, could be seen, as in Bohemian needle coal and in other coals. But even the presence of punctated tissue must not always be considered as positively deciding the plant to be coniferous, for the same structure is seen in such plants as *Drims Winteri*, and a species of *Illicium*. Many tissues supposed to be coniferous were, in reality, porous tissues and modifications of scalariform tissue, such as are seen in Lycopodiaceae and Ferns, and which appear to characterize Sigillarias and Lepidodendrons. Dr. Balfour stated that frequently what was supposed to be the ends of coniferous tissues as seen on transverse sections of coal were mere cells. Dr. Balfour alluded particularly to the occurrence of spore-like bodies in most coals and to the presence of large rounded bodies in many coals, having the appearance of sporangia and resembling those of Lycopodium. These circular sporangia consist of two valves, with a cavity containing carbonaceous matter. Dr. Balfour also alluded to the occurrence of a peculiar inflammable matter in the coals containing these sporangia; and he suggested that this resinous matter might be allied to the Lycopode powder of the present day.

Dr. BINNEY stated that the bodies referred to by Prof. Balfour were common in Lancashire coal. He did not think that all coal could be referred to the decomposition of coniferous plants, as, in many instances, there was no indication of their existence.—Mr. MORRIS stated that although in many instances coal gave no evidences of coniferous structure, in others it was entirely composed of it. In Hanover, a bed of coal existed which seemed to be composed entirely of the leaves of Coniferæ.—Prof. WILLIAMSON stated that the great mass of coal had never had anything to do with the Coniferæ. The bodies described by Dr. Balfour had no relation to coniferous plants, but were more properly referred to the Ferns and Lycopodiaceae. In America, coal presented the scalariform tissue, which could not have been coniferous.

'On the Stipular Glands of Rubiaceæ,' by Mr. G. LAWSON.—The presence of peculiar secretory glands on the interpetiolar stipules of Rubiaceæ was first pointed out by Dr. Weddell, of Paris, a few

years ago. Dr. Weddell and other observers have regarded this as a feature of structure strictly limited to that section of the order termed Cinchonæ, which consists chiefly of arborescent species, and includes the plants yielding cinchona barks; but Mr. Lawson's observations lead to the conclusion, that the so-called cinchonaceous glands are equally prevalent in Galieæ, and must, therefore, be regarded as of universal occurrence throughout the order. Several of the most recent writers on systematic botany have elevated the two sections of Rubiaceæ to the rank of separate orders:—a view which, while supported in a remarkably satisfactory manner by the habits of the plants and their geographical distribution, is not sustained by any important structural characters. The discovery of cinchonaceous glands in Galieæ, establishes an unsuspected point of relationship between those two ideally distinct groups of plants, and seems to indicate the propriety of retaining them as well-marked sections of one natural order. The principal structural distinction between the two orders depends upon the theoretical notion adopted of the nature of their foliaceous organs, which has led to the discussion of the subject at different times by De Candolle, Lindley, Bentham, and other distinguished botanists. Instead of endeavouring to reduce a portion of the leaves of Galieæ to stipules, as had been generally done, Mr. Lawson is of opinion that the simplest way of viewing the Rubiaceæ is to regard them all as verticillate-leaved plants, the so-called stipules of Cinchonæ being so evidently reduced leaves.

Mr. F. WENHAM read a paper 'On the Application of Photography to the Delineation of Microscopic Objects.'—The author described the process which he had adopted, and exhibited photographic pictures of magnified objects, which were remarkable for the accuracy with which the details of the object magnified were represented.

A communication was read from Capt. WIDDRINGTON describing a specimen of a species of *Felis* which he had met with in Spain, and which he believed to be new. He was, however, unable to secure any portion of the specimen, and he now sought information on the subject.

Dr. LANKESTER read the 'Report of the Committee on the Registration of Periodic Phenomena in Plants and Animals,'—from which it appeared that three sets of tables which had been issued by the Association had been returned during the past year. These tables, with those of previous years, would probably be published in the next volume of Transactions.

Mr. MOORE exhibited several rare animals from the Museum of Natural History in Liverpool; but as no notice had been given of their intended exhibition, and they were introduced at the end of the meeting, they did not gain the attention they merited.

#### MONDAY.

##### SECTION E.—GEOGRAPHY AND ETHNOLOGY.

Col. Chesney (in the absence of Sir R. I. Murchison) took the chair.

'On the Caucasus and Parts of the Crimea,' by Mr. D. SEYMOUR.—Mr. Seymour said he had not travelled in the Crimea to the same extent that he had done in Circassia. He passed through the Crimea nine years ago and spent one summer there, while in Circassia he spent three years, and visited it at two different times before, and after a long journey in Persia and India. As regarded the Crimea, it contained four races of people: amongst whom were the Tartars, being the great bulk of the population; the Greeks, many remaining of the old Greek colonies established there; also an ancient colony of Jews, near Simpheropol; and lastly, the Russians, who had gone there in great numbers since the country came into their possession, about the year 1786. He referred to Perekop, which, he said, was a cold climate, little cultivated, and containing hardly any Russian population. The steppes and plains were similar to the Downs in Wiltshire. Thence there were slopes all along the country until approaching Simpheropol, near the centre of the island, and scarcely a tree or landmark to intercept the view. The plains then rise gradually on approaching

Simpheropol, and thence that town good house, pally inhabited about 400 beautiful the palace that, in the before all Jews who Leaving he was who had docks for the ship T are now him by C wood of w a cannon English ships, as to over the c municated teries had had witne maid that be used, the shock of t not would shortly be anecdote it told him c came there wheelbarro mixing lat they were amongst th but carried had to be large num always in t duce among trivances co Europe. To te make th The Russia it is enoug impossible a Russia considered a traditio of building th completely the space inquiry he c pared the s his mistake gauge with was near I that the Al thought ha there exist which mig trasting th tion of the different i referred to the sea in r, rich Russia the English Italy. Wit destitute of other circun treme, arisi the clouds c uninhabita was protect There was hills, and th had heard produced the kind of por by Prince manner, a m lived in this He served popular in I (Mr. Seymo

Simpheropol, where the mountains are visible, and there are little undulating hills after passing that town. It is a pretty Russian town, with good houses, surrounded by woods, and is principally inhabited by Russians. To the south-west, about 40 miles, is Balaklava, where there is a beautiful remnant of old Moorish architecture, the palace of the old Khan of the Crimea; near that, in the mountains, is the colony of the Jews before alluded to. They are that section of the Jews who rejected the interpolation of the Talmud. Leaving Balaklava, he visited Sebastopol; where he was shown over the place by Col. Upton, who had been sent there to construct the large docks for the government. He went out to see the ship Twelve Apostles, of which the Russians are now so proud, and among many things told him by Col. Upton and others, was the bad wood of which the ships were made. He said that a cannon ball which would lodge in the side of an English ship would go through one of the Russian ships, as the timbers had been "jobbed." Going over the casemated batteries, the engineers communicated to him the information that the batteries had been uniformly "jobbed"; the engineer had witnessed the building of the walls, and he said that if ever a time came to require them to be used, they would be found hardly to stand the shock of their own fire. Whether that be true or not would soon be ascertained, as they would shortly be put to the test. He remembered an anecdote illustrative of the genius of the Russians told him by Col. Upton: he said that when he came there the Russians did not know the use of wheelbarrows, or any other contrivance for economizing labour. In the large works with which they were occupied before the Colonel came amongst them, the men used no sort of apparatus, but carried on their backs, in bags, the earth which had to be removed; the consequence was that a large number of them received injuries, and were always in the hospitals. The Colonel had to introduce amongst them the common mechanical contrivances so well known and generally adopted in Europe. They worked well, but it was difficult to make them understand the value of accuracy. The Russians consider that if they work at a thing it is enough, and in the Russian army the word "impossible" was not allowed a place. Whenever a Russian soldier was told to do a thing, it was considered sufficient if he did something. In illustration of that, Col. Upton told him that when building the dock-gates he found his calculations completely out, and the woodwork would not fit the space in which it was to be placed. On inquiry he ascertained that the workman who prepared the stone cut it too short, and in order that his mistake might not be found out he cut the gauge with which the stone was measured. It was near Balaklava where it had been intended that the Allied troops should land; but which he thought had been very wisely abandoned, for there existed in that locality a narrow gorge, which might be easily defended. After contrasting the southern with the northern portion of the country, which he described as being different in their climate and general character,—he referred to the Tauric chain of hills which rise from the sea in a most delightful slope, on which the rich Russians come and spend the summer, as did the English when they retired in the autumn to Italy. With regard to Odessa, it was a place destitute of attraction in respect to climate and other circumstances; in winter the cold was extreme, arising from certain winds, and in summer the clouds of dust were such as to render it almost uninhabitable. The southern coast of the Crimea was protected from the effects of these winds. There was good vegetation on the slopes of the hills, and the vine grew in large quantities. He had heard at Kertch that a portion of the wine produced there was sold in Europe as an inferior kind of port and sherry. He was there received by Prince Woronzow, in the most hospitable manner, a man who was born in England, and who lived in this country until he was twenty years old. He served through the wars with Napoleon, was popular in Europe and Russia, and at the time he (Mr. Seymour) was there, was intrusted with the

command of the Russian forces which extended from Poland down to the frontiers of Persia. Mr. Seymour afterwards returned to Simpheropol through the mountains. All the southern parts of the Crimea are covered with stone tumuli and other remnants of successive generations of Greeks who had lived there at a very remote period. After describing Kertch, a new place, now one of great resort and much frequented by shipping, he crossed the straits which divide the Sea of Azof from the Black Sea; this was the Cimmerian Bosphorus, the place where the ancients supposed existed the entrance to the infernal regions, of which an account had been given by Homer,—the passage in reference to which he read to the Meeting. The general geography of that part of the world had altered much since it was mentioned by the ancient Greek geographers, and there were now no flourishing cities, temples, or monuments. After glancing at some of the ancient traditions connected with the localities he had visited, he directed attention to the country lying on the shores of the Black Sea to the east, which was extremely beautiful, and rich in vegetation, bearing a strong resemblance to the coast of Malabar. The southern shore of the Caucasus was also one of those favoured regions for the growth of shrubs and plants, and considered extremely fertile. All that country now occupied by the Russians, with the twelve forts, all of which had been abandoned, except Anapa, those on the lower southern range of the Caucasus, and the lower ridges of mountains, as far as Georgia, were inhabited by the people known as the Circassians. After tracing the different races of the Caucasus, and showing their origin, the speaker referred to the power of Russia in that country, observing that she only possessed the ground on which the forts were built, and there was difficulty in obtaining sufficient food to support life. The forts on the east coast of the Black Sea were reserved as a sort of Norfolk Island for the army, and all considered as going too quick in the march of progress were sent to finish the short remains of their existence in that country. Such was the mortality, that the whole of the troops had to be renewed in about five years. Those who went there seldom came back again, and the regiments were not relieved, but left there until they died. He had heard a great deal from Russian officers, who had been there and served in the army; and they had told him that when, shut up within the walls, they required a walk on the ramparts to refresh themselves, very often they would be suddenly struck by a ball, though no enemy was perceived. The Circassian would lie on his stomach for a whole day in a place of concealment, and when he got the opportunity he would steal from his hiding-place, and, with his long rifle, shoot down his enemies, the Russians, who could not be prepared for an attack of such a nature. Attempts had been made by Russia to gain the confidence of the Circassians, but hitherto those attempts had been unsuccessful, and even Greek priests had been sent there by the Emperor to induce them to become converts to the Greek Church. After describing the country of the Black Sea Cossacks, commencing at Kamarnie, Mr. Seymour referred to the Russian territory in that direction, more especially the steppes, which, he said, contained a rich loamy soil, only requiring cultivation by the hand of man to produce large and luxuriant crops. He gave an account of some interesting characters he met with in this part of his travels; one of whom, condemned to death by the Russian laws, had escaped by bribing the gaoler at his place of confinement, though it was understood by the authorities that he had expiated his alleged offence by the usual punishment of hanging. In Circassia the Cossacks were kept in a continual state of alarm by their enemies the Circassians; they were always on the alert, and if any danger appeared they placed a torch to some straw of combustible material; this was a signal conveying the intelligence down the line, by which 3,000 or 4,000 men could be summoned when the Cossacks were likely to surprise them. The Cossack dress so much resembled that of the Circassians, that it was almost impossible to distinguish them; and, as regarded personal safety, it appeared that every man was obliged to be constantly on the alert

to save his life. The Russian army in the Caucasus, when he (Mr. Seymour) was there in 1846, was 170,000 men; but a portion of them were always to the north of the Caucasus, the main part being concentrated to the left of Stavropol. After referring to the Circassian chief (Schamyl), whom he eulogized as a warrior,—relating several anecdotes illustrative of his courage and devotion to his country,—he glanced at the character of the Russian officers, some of whom, he said, were men of intelligence, and prepared to do their duty as well as any men. Many of the younger ones had liberal views, read the French and English papers, and he had read the sentiment expressed by one of them—"Let no country, when strong enough to become a nation, consent to remain a province." That showed the existence of a liberal spirit amongst some of the younger Russian officers. There was one circumstance he might mention as indicating the spirit of enmity fostered between the Russians and the Circassians. The Russians made an annual expedition into the country with the whole of their army, their object being, out of a spirit of revenge, to burn all the flocks, produce, &c., belonging to the Circassian population. In one part of the country the Emperor Alexander allowed a colony of missionaries to be established, but the present Emperor, not so liberally disposed, had driven from his territory all the missionaries from every region. When he (Mr. Seymour) was there, all had been sent away but one, and he, being a clever fellow, was kept as a spy. Had the missionaries been allowed to remain unmolested, he had no doubt they would have done much to advance the civilization of the people. The missions were originated by Mr. Brunton; and besides other efforts for the enlightenment of the people, the Scriptures had been translated into the Circassian language. After referring to the characteristics of the Tartar race, Mr. Seymour spoke of the insecurity which prevailed in Circassia; giving as an incidental illustration, the circumstance that on one occasion he was staying at an hotel, passing the evening with some friends, and they were obliged to return back without a lantern, in order to be in the dark, that they might not be popped off by the Circassians, who would not discriminate between them and their enemies the Russians. The Russians were obliged to admit the Circassians into the towns to bring them provisions, and at night the Circassians went forth to slaughter any of their inveterate enemies whom they might find about the place. After enumerating some of the victories gained by Schamyl, he made some remarks to the effect that proper measures had not been taken during the present war to secure the adherence of the whole of the Circassian population in favour of the Allies and against Russia. The Georgian nation to the south of the Caucasus was arrayed against us, and with proper management it might have been otherwise. He remembered a Georgian prince, a distinguished officer of the Russian army, telling him that when he went with the Georgian militia expedition into the mountains, some of the people called out, "Why come to fight us? it is the Russians we want to fight; we want to fight with you against the Russians." In proof of this the Georgian militia passed uninjured, but the Russian battalions who followed them were destroyed. With such a disposition the union of the Georgians might have been obtained, and he regretted that no one had been sent out there who understood the politics of Circassia, to effect that object. The Circassians understood the three languages, Persian, Arabic, and Turkish, and it was matter of regret that no person acquainted with the languages and the country had been sent there; but that recently, when a gentleman was appointed to such a mission, he was a person advanced in age, not knowing the languages, and had spent most of his life in South America, being unacquainted altogether with the East. Such a selection ought not to have been made, and had the matter been properly managed, the accession of the Georgians to the Russian army would never have occurred. Some time ago a conspiracy was formed there to massacre all the Russians, which was not discovered until the night before it had



been arranged to take place, the 1st of January, and then it was only made known by a courier who arrived from St. Petersburg. It was thus that probably the Russian prestige had been saved in those regions. With a people fond of their country, and looking forward to a separation, besides the fact that the Russians were not treating it as their own country, he thought that something might be done; and he only trusted that, in calling attention publicly to the matter, some better steps might be taken, otherwise we might have difficulty in gaining the ground we had lost. He urged them to bear in mind that those nations he had referred to were not always Mohammedan; they were once Christian, and still retained many Christian customs; and at a place near the Pass of Dariel some stones had been discovered, indicating that the rite of the sacrament had been performed at a remote period. The country was not naturally one of a Mohammedan population, and he had often been told by some of the people that they wished to have the means of visiting Europe, to secure some co-operation in their favour, that they might not continue to expend their energies in a useless sacrifice of life, which had been going on long enough. He hoped the opportunity would not be lost of obtaining the support of this nucleus of a great nation; that scope would be given to their energies; and that they may be able to co-operate and enjoy the advantages and the benefits of European civilization.

'On the Ethnological Value of the Results of Philological Inquiry,' by Dr. R. CULL.

'Remarks on some Levels taken in Jerusalem with the Aneroid,' by Capt. W. ALLEN, R.N.

'On the Site of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem,' by Mr. J. FERGUSSON.

TUESDAY.

'On the Early Ethnology of Britain,' by Mr. T. WRIGHT,—which gave rise to a long discussion.

'On the Lost Tribes of Israel,' by Mr. J. KENNEDY.

'On the Estuary of the River Mersey, and the hazardous and uncertain Approaches to the Port of Liverpool,' by Mr. J. B. YATES.—After a view of the difficulties of the navigation, Mr. Yates concluded by saying, that merchants must trust to a beneficent Providence to avert the impending evils.

Mr. J. BOULT exhibited some sectional diagrams illustrative of the changes in the bed of the river and its approaches. After an elucidation which manifested much careful research, Mr. Boulton regretted that we had not more sectional diagrams of the Channel in all parts.

One of the Secretaries read a letter from Mr. G. RENNIE:—'Hydrographical Remarks on the Improvement of the Port of Liverpool.'

'Whitehall Place, Sept. 22, 1854.

"My Dear Sir,—I have by this post written a long letter to Sir R. I. Murchison on the improvements which might be made in the river and port of Liverpool, by projecting out from the Rock Point a pier or jetty of wooden piles screwed into the Burbo Sands,—as shown in the inclosed lithographic sketch coloured yellow, and the probable accumulation of sand and soil coloured green. The proposed plan has already been before the Liverpool Dock Committee, and submitted, at the request of the Earl of Derby, to the former Tidal Harbour Commission; who (I understand) put their veto upon it. Nevertheless, the idea has excited a great deal of interest in Liverpool, and if again brought before them through the British Association might be considered of great public importance; and I, who know Liverpool Harbour well,—having surveyed it for the corporation some years since—have long considered the importance of the question as one which will be called for by the necessities of its commerce, which requires that the lives of thousands and property of vast amount be saved from the effects of the dangers of the shifting sands and channels of the entrance; not to say, the great annual cost of maintaining steam-tugs and floating lights to warn vessels going in and out of their danger,—and as new docks, which will cost several millions, are now being projected on the north shore (which is greatly exposed to the winds and waves), the entrances to those docks will be, as those of the present north

docks are in stormy weather, inaccessible. My object is, to bring this project before the Liverpool people as a public benefit, not as a work of engineering; to which I am indifferent at my present time of life. Will you, therefore, interest the Section about this scheme as a work of science? and be so good as give a copy of the inclosed to the different members of the Committee, and oblige

Yours, &c.

GEORGE RENNIE.

"To Dr. Shaw,  
Secretary, &c. &c. Geographical Society."

Considerable discussion ensued upon this suggestion,—in which Mr. BOULT explained the proposed plan, but would give no opinion as to its desirability.—Mr. YATES, Admiral GREENVILLE, and Mr. WEBSTER considered it impracticable.—The EARL of HARROWBY and Sir R. I. MURCHISON considered it worthy of the nation as a national project; and they resolved to draw up some resolution to induce the inhabitants of Liverpool to discuss and examine the important proposition, which sought to improve and preserve their noble estuary.

'On Lake Aulaga and its Drainage, in the Desert of Caranjas, in Bolivia,' by Dr. M. HAMILTON.

WEDNESDAY.

'On the Non-Russian Populations of European Russia,' by Dr. LATHAM.—Certain portions of the heterogeneous population of European Russia consists, he observed, first, of colonists or new settlers; secondly, of the frontier population; and, finally, the fundamental and original population of the great Russian Empire. In the first division are to be found Jews, who number upwards of 1,000,000, and are spread over the different governments of European Russia, exclusive of Finland and Poland. Then come the Germans, amounting to about 500,000, and their distribution is wider even than that of the Jews, as they are to be found in every one of the Russian governments: in the government of the Don Cossacks they number only 11; while in Bessarabia they amount to some thousands. Then follow the Gypsies, who are to be found in every colony;—and then the Armenians, Greeks, Servians and Mongols. The Mongols can shake the government of Astrakan, on the Caspian frontier, and are a population worthy of much attention. They come from the most distant point, and are Tartars only in the English sense of the word, they being in Russia called Calmucks. In religion they are Buddhists; their language is akin, in some points, to the Turkish; and their physiognomy is that of extreme Mongol conformation, of which they are the type. Their political relations, before they became Russian, were with China rather than Tartary,—and they now number about 120,000. The second division of the population belongs to Russia, simply from the fact of Russia being in contact with European localities. The first and most important of these are the Romanians,—so called because the language they speak bears that name. Politically speaking, they comprise Wallachians, Moldavians and Bessarabians, together with a great portion of the population of Transylvania. Having observed that the principal characteristic of the people comprised under the head of Romanians was their language, the lecturer remarked, that the remainder, or the third division, of the Non-Russian population of European Russia, of which he would speak, would be referable to one of the three great families of the human race—to that which ethnologists call Ugrian, but which men at large call Fin,—a race akin to the Finlanders. The type of this division is to be found in the north, in the Grand Duchy of Finland; of the Turkish division the type is to be found in Independent Tartary; and the type of the third division is to be found in the parts between the Baltic and the Black Sea—in Lithuania, Poland, Galicia, Servia, &c. One is south and westward, one central and eastward, and one north and eastward. From these positions, the lecturer showed on the map the course which each division took in its emigration; and so illustrated the ethnological axiom, that the fate of the northern population, when pressed on two sides, is the fate of the iron between the anvil and the hammer. Here the

Fin was the iron, and his wide distribution over the country, far more than the researches of history, proved the truth of the axiom. In the government of St. Petersburg the Fins are to be found, and again in those of Archangel and Novgorod. In Livonia, Esthonia and Courland, on the frontier of Prussia, a Finnish population is to be found, but in an eminently fragmentary form. In Courland they are called "Lives," showing that they at one time entered Livonia and constituted its population. The ethnology, however, of the three provinces of Esthonia, Livonia and Courland is extremely complicated. In Archangel, the original population of Fins is to be found,—and there are also there two out-lying branches of the present stock called Samoids and Lapps.

The CHAIRMAN complimented Dr. Latham on the ability and research displayed in his paper, and asked him what might be the amount of the non-Russian population of European Russia?—Dr. LATHAM replied, that they numbered about 7,000,000.—The paper gave rise to an animated discussion, each gentleman who took part in it bearing testimony to the accuracy of its deductions.

'On South African Languages,' by Mr. BLECH.  
'On the Eastern Territories of the State of Ecuador and the River Napo,' by the Rev. C. G. NICOLAY.

There were several other papers in the programme; but they were not read.

TUESDAY.

SECTION F.—STATISTICS.

'On the Rise, Progress and Present Condition of the Joint-Stock Banks in London,' by Mr. J. KNIGHT.—Mr. Knight proceeded to examine their resources, and to elucidate the progress they have made up to the present time. In the course of his address, he explained the voluminous tables he had placed before the members, and which exhibited some most valuable facts. Mr. Knight appeared thoroughly master of the subject he had in hand; but, from the pressure of business before the Section, greatly abbreviated his paper.

'On the Education of the Poor in Liverpool,' by the Rev. Dr. HUME.

'On the Reformation of Offenders,' by Mr. J. B. H. BAKER.—The author strongly recommended reformatories instead of prisons, and showed the salutary effects of a reformatory established in the county of Gloucester, near Cheltenham.

The reading of the paper led to an animated discussion.

SECTION G.—MECHANICAL SCIENCE.

Col. CHESNEY read 'A Report on Life-Boats,' prepared by a Committee appointed at the last Meeting of the British Association.—The Report included a history of the introduction of life-boats, and mentioned particularly the port of Liverpool as having set an example in establishing a well-organized system of life-boats, which since the year 1840 had saved 1,329 lives and 312 vessels. On the south coast of England there is a great deficiency of the means of saving life and property at sea; there being not more than fifteen life-boats from the Land's End to the South Foreland. The eastern and western coasts of England are better provided for; but in Scotland there are only six life-boats on the eastern coast, and two on the western; whilst on the dangerous coasts of the Hebrides and the Shetland Islands there is not a single one. The Report contained a list of the shipwrecks reported at Lloyd's for the last four years, which showed an average annual loss of life of 1,250. Capt. Chesney stated, that the prize offered by the Duke of Northumberland for the best life-boat had failed to produce one that was adapted for all the required purposes; and he described, as the most efficient of any yet invented, the life-boat of Mr. Richardson, which he brought before the notice of the Mechanical Section at the last meeting at Hull.

A short discussion followed the reading of the Report,—in which the desirability of pressing the subject on the notice of the Government was enforced.

Dr. SCORESBY made a communication entitled

an 'Inquiry which Safety be reasonable various compasses iron ships, opposition Mr. Archib command a The princip 1. That the on the com and a hori 2. That the compass ac That the ch by changes are influence of form and particular m correctives. deviation on and in going error. 6. T iron materia netic action quires time t netic attract these princip he has long iron ships is which the les are those w pursuing the royages fur In such circ observing the rally have co gations whic the danger a standard azi pedestal were be found; i the head for refer be taken on amply-directi A very an Mr. J. GRAN supposed inse deviations of experience pr gasing iron sh as an instance from local circ pletely at fa having been a When an iron adjusted the Admiral BEEC to have alway for the maste Mr. FAIRBAIR interested in t mit they cause not corrected, mentioned th one of the fir owing to the i the captain, w Man, found hi Mr. KEOGH struction of a two looms are being above the gained by this and greater co 'On the Lin laid on a Pile STREVELLY, of E penetration of c circumstances, di wards; but fo generally towa the ram the simple test for via, after the intended, lettin height than c comparing the

an "Inquiry as to the Principles and Measures on which Safety in the Navigation of Iron Ships may be reasonably looked for."—He alluded to his previous communications on the deviations of ships' compasses by the influence of the masses of iron in iron ships, and said, that after experiencing much opposition his views had been fully confirmed by Mr. Archibald Smith, a gentleman who had at command all the records of Her Majesty's ships. The principles for which he contended were:—

1. That the magnetism of iron ships in its action on the compass may be represented by a vertical and a horizontal bar swinging round a compass.
2. That changes in the magnetic distribution and compass action in iron ships do take place.
3. That the changes take place in a ship's magnetism by changes of magnetic latitude.
4. That there are influences in a ship derived from the varieties of form and position (relatively to the compass) of particular masses of iron which may act as natural correctives.
5. That the plan of correcting the deviation on iron ships by fixed magnets is unsafe, and in going to southern regions aggravates the error.
6. That the twisting and straining of the iron materials of a ship will tend to alter the magnetic action on the compass; and
7. That it requires time to effect the changes in a ship's magnetic attraction.

Dr. Scoresby said, the results of these principles establish the proposition for which he has long contended, that the magnetism of all iron ships is changeable; and that the iron ships in which the least changes may be expected to occur are those which have been long in use ordinarily pursuing the same course, and those not making voyages further south than the Mediterranean. In such circumstances an intelligent captain, by observing the changes that take place, may generally have confidence in his compasses. The suggestions which Dr. Scoresby made for diminishing the danger arising from deviations are:—that a standard azimuth compass be placed on a high pedestal where a position of smallest deviation may be found; that a compass be placed at the mast-head for reference to correct errors; and that care be taken on the selection of compasses to have simply-directive force on the needle.

A very animated discussion ensued, in which Mr. J. GRANTHAM defended iron ships from the supposed insecurity to which they are liable by the deviations of the compass; and he contended that experience proved there is no more danger in navigating iron ships than wooden ones. He mentioned as an instance of deviation that sometimes occurs from local circumstances, that a captain was completely at fault in consequence of his compass having been affected by the iron tiller of his vessel. When an iron ship had its compasses properly adjusted the deviation was readily corrected.—Admiral BEECHY said, the best precaution would be to have always an azimuth compass on board, and for the masters to take frequent observations.—Mr. FAIRBAIRN observed, that though he is greatly interested in the success of iron ships, he must admit they cause deviations in the compass which, if not corrected, might lead to serious error. He mentioned that he took an experimental voyage in one of the first iron ships that was built, when, owing to the influence the iron had on the compass, the captain, who intended to steer for the Isle of Man, found himself on the coast of Cumberland.

Mr. KEOGH exhibited and explained the construction of a new kind of power-loom, in which two looms are fitted into a single frame, one loom being above the other. The advantages stated to be gained by this arrangement are increased space and greater economy in the manufacture.

"On the Limit of Weight which may safely be laid on a Pile driven into the Ground," by Prof. STREVELLY, of Belfast.—The force which resists the penetration of a pile may, under very peculiar circumstances, diminish as the pile is driven downwards; but for the most part it increases, and generally towards the last strokes it receives from the ram the increase is very considerable. A simple test for this was pointed out by the author, viz. after the pile had been driven as deep as intended, letting the ram descend on it from a less height than the previous stroke, and carefully comparing the two distances it has been thus

driven. If the resistance increase, then the actual load the pile can bear will not be less than what it would be if the resistance were strictly uniform which the pile experienced as it penetrated. This last force admits of a very simple calculation; from which, therefore, a most certain limit to the load or dead weight that can be laid on the pile without its sinking further may be obtained. The author then pointed out the two dynamic principles on which the calculation was founded:—1. When a moving mass,  $W$ , strikes another  $W'$  at rest with the velocity  $v$ , then the velocity, after impact,

$$v' = v \frac{W}{W + W'}$$

2. When a body moving with the velocity  $v'$ , is stopped by a uniformly acting resistance, that resistance can be compared with the weight that gives the velocity (say to the ram), by the principle that the force or resistance is proportional to the square of the velocity gained or destroyed, divided by the space through which the force acts to give or take it away. The following practical rule is, then, a simple algebraic deduction from these two principles. Let  $W$  denote the weight of the ram in tons;  $W'$  the weight of the pile in tons and decimals;  $h$ , the height in feet and decimals from which the ram is let fall on the final stroke;  $d$ , the depth in decimals of a foot which the last stroke causes the pile to penetrate.  $L$ , the limit of load (in tons) that may with safety be laid on the pile, shall then be:

$$L = W \cdot \left( \frac{W}{W + W'} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{h}{d} \right).$$

In which  $W$ ,  $W'$ ,  $h$ , and  $d$ , can all be had by actual weighing and measurement.

Mr. OLDHAM communicated the results of some 'Experiments on the Transverse Strain on Cast Iron,' in confirmation of Mr. Fairbairn's experiments on the additional strength gained by reheating, as reported at the last meeting of the Association. In these experiments, which were made on bars 2 feet long, the maximum degree of strength was attained at the nineteenth melting. The results will be published entire in the Proceedings of the Association.

Mr. FAIRBAIRN read a Paper 'On the Solidification of Bodies under Great Pressure,'—which contained the results of a portion of the experiments conducted by himself, Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Joule, at the request of the Association, and by means of funds supplied for that purpose by the Royal Society. At the last meeting at Hull, Mr. Hopkins alluded to these experiments, and then explained the nature of the apparatus invented by Mr. Fairbairn for submitting the substances to be operated on to the enormous pressure of 90,000 lb. on the square inch. In these inquiries the objects kept in view were, to ascertain the exact laws which govern the cohesive strength of bodies in their present physical condition, and how far a knowledge of those laws may conduce to the reduction of the metals and their subsequent solidification under circumstances whereby increased strength and density may be obtained. The experiments commenced with spermaceti, bars of which were cast and left to solidify at the same temperature, but under different pressures. When pressure was applied to these bars, the one that sustained a pressure of 40,793 lb. carried 7.52 lb. per square inch more weight than one submitted to a pressure of 6,421 lb., the ratio being in favour of the more strongly compressed bar, in its power of resistance to a tensile strain, as 1 to .876. It appeared from these experiments that bodies when solidified under pressure have not only their densities greatly increased, but their molecular structure is also materially affected, so as to increase their adhesive power. Still further to elucidate the subject, cubes of exactly one inch were carefully prepared and loaded with weights till they were crushed. The first cube, solidified under a pressure of 6,421 lb., was crushed with 213 lb. Tin was then operated on: a quantity of pure tin being melted and then allowed to solidify; first, at the pressure of the atmosphere and afterwards at a pressure of 908 lb. on the square inch. The same quantity taken from the same ingot was subsequently submitted to a pressure of 5,698 lb. on the square inch. The bars, after being solidi-

fied and allowed to cool for upwards of fourteen hours, were subjected to the usual tests of tensile strains. From these experiments there was derived, as nearly as possible, the same law or measure of strength in regard to the effects of pressure as obtained from the experiments on spermaceti; for with the same pressures of 908 lb. and 5,698 lb. upon the square inch, the breaking weights were 4,053 lb. and 5,737 lb. or in the ratio of 1 to .706, being an increase of nearly one-third on the crystallized metal when solidified under about six times the pressure. From these facts Mr. Fairbairn observed, it is evident that the power of bodies to resist strain is greatly increased when solidified under pressure; and he said he considered it highly probable that the time is not far distant when the resisting powers of metals, as well as their densities, may be increased to such an extent as to ensure not only greater security, but greater economy by solidification under pressure. He said he was borne out in these views by the fact, that the specific gravities of the bodies experimented on were increased in a given ratio to the pressure. Spermaceti solidified under a pressure of 908 lb. on the square inch had a specific gravity of 0.94859; whilst that solidified under a pressure of 5,698 lb. had its specific gravity increased to 0.95495. The specific gravity of tin solidified under a pressure of 908 lb. was 7.3063; and that solidified under a pressure of 5,698 lb. was 7.3154, which gave .0091 as the increased density from pressure. There are further experiments in progress to determine the law that governs this increase of specific gravity, and to determine the conducting powers of bodies solidified under severe pressure. Experiments have also been made on such substances as clay, charcoal and different kinds of timber. From the experiments on powdered dry clay, it appeared that a bar of that substance  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches long and  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch diameter, after being hammered into the cylinder, so as to become slightly consolidated, was reduced in bulk with a pressure of 9,940 lb. on the square inch to 2.958; with a pressure of 54,580 lb. to 2.3; with 76,084 lb. to 2.288; and with a pressure of 97,588 lb. to 2.195 inches.

#### WEDNESDAY.

The Section met this morning for a short time to finish the reading of the papers sent in.

The first was a communication from Capt. HENDERSON, 'On Ocean Steamers and Clipper Ships, and their Descriptive Measurement.'—He exhibited a diagram showing the sizes of the most celebrated ships of ancient and modern times, commencing with Noah's Ark, which was set down as 480 feet long,—and ending with the "modern ark" building for the Eastern Steam Ship Company, which will be 680 feet long. In his opinion, ships of such large dimensions must be unmanageable at sea, as they cannot be steered, unless some special provision besides the rudder be made for altering their courses.

Capt. J. NORTON described some railway signals, which he considered might be adopted with advantage for effecting communication between the guard and the engine-driver. One of these, which he said was of Chinese origin, consisted of a metal whistle fixed to a short stick, which when thrown rapidly through the air, made a shrill sound. Capt. Norton said, the best means of propulsion was to fire it from a pistol. He had tried it several times with great success; for the engineer, when he heard the whistle passing over his head, responded immediately by sounding the steam-whistle.

Mr. PROSSER read a paper 'On Unchanged Steam,'—in which he explained and commented on the plan adopted in the Arctic steam-packet, of giving additional heat to the steam on its passage to the cylinders by exposing it more directly to the action of heat.

A short discussion took place in which several gentlemen expressed their opinions, that there is no advantage gained by attempting to give increased elasticity to the steam as it issues from the boiler.

Mr. A. SMITH exhibited specimens of Wire Rope; and explained the origin and process of the manufacture.

Mr. E. M'DERMOTT explained a new Railway



Brake, which is brought into action by the pressure of the steam in the boiler.

Mr. J. TAYLOR made a communication 'On an Iron Floating Graving Dock,' by which means the ships to be repaired are raised by caissons of a peculiar shape.

A mechanically adjusted compass, supported by vulcanized india-rubber springs, was exhibited by Mr. GRAY;—the object of which was to prevent the action of the needle being influenced by the motion of the ship.

#### MISCELLANEA

**Prize Essays.**—Our contemporaries are taking up the argument against the Prize Essay system. A writer in *Lloyd's News* adopts the spirit of our own argument, and a clever writer in the *Leader*, while agreeing with us that the Prize System is unproductive, professes not to understand the logic of our statement. "Apropos," says the *Leader*, "of the publication of Mr. Dunkley's 'Essay on Free Trade,' the *Athenæum* has again been attacking the Prize Essay System. The objection of our contemporary to the system is, that it makes one or two hundred persons devote time and labour to a certain work, and then only pays one of them;—which (says our contemporary) is anti-commercial and a swindle. We do not exactly see the force," &c. We pause to correct the phrase. Our readers know that the words here put into our mouths are not ours,—we never said the system was either anti-commercial or a swindle. Such terms are not in our vocabulary. The writer in *Lloyd's* puts the case as we put it, and with a greater freedom of illustration. "Suppose," says our contemporary, "the article required were, not a book, but a statue of Sir Robert Peel, would the League wish all our sculptors to make statues, in order that they might choose the best of three hundred? At most they would only ask for a drawing or a model. Suppose it were a portrait of Mr. Cobden? Would they dream of asking our painters to paint three hundred portraits—when they only meant to pay for one? To bring the case nearer home to our Manchester friends, who err in ignorance, not in design, we are convinced—suppose a buyer of calicoes were to call around him all the manufacturers on 'Change and say—'Gentlemen, I want a ship-load of calicoes. Let each man go home and prepare a ship-load, and when three hundred ship-loads are prepared, I will walk round your magazines and choose the one I like best—pay for it the usual market price—and give those of you who have not pleased me, permission to put your goods in the fire.'" Is not this a fair statement of the case as against the League? We think it is; and we are sure that honourable minds need only have attention called to the evil, and the injustice of this form of literary gambling, to secure its discontinuance.

**Pillar Letter-boxes in the Metropolis.**—Lord Canning and the authorities of the General Post-office have had a scheme for some time in contemplation to facilitate the posting of letters in London by establishing "pillar letter-boxes" in the most populous districts of the metropolis, and reducing the number of receiving-houses, which are attended with great expense. The subjoined circular from the Secretary of the General Post-office has been transmitted to the several district boards of Commissioners of Pavements in which the experiment is about to be made:—

"General Post-office, Oct. 11.

"Sir,—I am directed by the Postmaster-General to state, with a view of giving additional facilities to the public for posting their letters, his Lordship has it in contemplation to place pillar letter-boxes along the leading thoroughfares of the metropolis, at intervals of half a mile, or thereabouts; and that he has selected the important line of Ludgate Hill, Fleet Street, the Strand, and Piccadilly, as the first wherein to erect those letter-boxes. It is proposed to fix the boxes on the side of the footway, in such a position as not to obstruct traffic of any kind, and the whole cost of construction and erection will be borne by this department. I request that you will inform me whether your board will give their permission for the erection of such letter-boxes in the district under their authority. Lord Canning will be happy to direct an officer of this department to meet any person your board may appoint, to consult respecting the precise points of construction. I am, &c., R. HILL."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—J. F. C.—F. D. R.—A.—T. Y. W.—J. L.—T. S. N.—received.

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**UNITED KINGDOM LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 3, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London.**

The FOURTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Company—being in the twenty-first year of its existence—was held at the Head Office, No. 3, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London, on Friday, 14th Jany. 1853.

CHARLES GRAHAM, Esq. F.S.A., in the Chair.

Statements of accounts, from the formation of the Company down to the 31st December last, were laid before the Meeting, from which the following is abstracted:—

That during the year ending 31st December, 1852, 448 new Policies have been issued, amounting to 251,188l., and yielding, in annual premiums, a sum of 12,652l. 4s. 6d.

That the yearly income from Premiums alone is 107,804l. 15s. 5d.

That the property of the Company, as at 31st December last, amounts to 483,592l. 11s. 11d.

That the sum assured by each Policy from the commencement averages 734l. 19s.

That 39 Policies on 67 lives have become claims in 1853, on which 61,373l. 6s. 4d. has been paid; and

That since the Company commenced business in 1834, 8,293 Policies have been issued in all, of which 3,750 have lapsed, surrendered, or become claims.

By order of the Board, PATRICK MACINTYRE, Sec.

**THE DIRECTORS OF THE STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY** request attention to the advantage of joining the Company before the close of the books for the present year on 15th November, with reference to the division of Profits in 1855.

The Fund to be divided in 1855 will be derived from the Profits which have arisen since 1850, and those Persons who effect Assurances at this time will secure TWO YEARS' Participation in that Fund, while they will rank at the division in 1850 for seven years' bonus; in 1855, for twelve years' bonus; and so on, increasing their claim at EACH PERIOD.

The principle on which the Profits of the Company are divided is similar to a FOUNTAIN, and the Directors have been enabled to secure very large benefits on the Policies issued at the former Divisions of Profits in 1835, 1840, 1845, and 1850; some of the earliest Assurances having been increased at the rate of 67 1/2% for each 100l. assured, thus making an original 1,000l. Policy equal to 1,675l.

The Directors confidently assert that no Life Assurance Institution holds out greater advantages than the STANDARD to persons who, looking forward to long life, effect Assurances for the benefit of their families.

The Company's large Accumulated Funds are invested on the security of land and in Government securities. The income is considerably upwards of Two Hundred Thousand Pounds per annum; and for some years the average number of persons who have joined the Institution has been 525, and the corresponding annual amount of New Assurances, 460,000.

**LONDON.** CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD. The Right Honourable the EARL OF ARDEN.

**ORDINARY DIRECTORS.** F. Le Breton, Esq. 3, Crosby-square. John Lindsay, Esq. 36, Laurence-pool-lane. Thomas J. L. Brooking, Esq. Old Broad-street.

John Griffith Frith, Esq. Austin Friars. Alexander Gillespie, Esq. 3, Billiter-court. Alexander Macgregor, Esq. Arlington-street.

John Scott, Esq. 4, Hyde Park-street.

Further information will be supplied at the Company's Offices and Agencies.

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